

HOME NEWS

Pressure for early education Bill to clarify parental rights

By Hugh Noyes

Parliamentary Correspondent

Mrs Williams was left in no doubt yesterday that she and the Government will be under increasing pressure during the coming session of Parliament to find time for an education Bill which would include as one of its main points clauses to clarify parents' rights concerning the education of their children.

The Bill was not mentioned in the Queen's Speech on Thursday, but was referred by Mr. Callaghan when he opened the five-day debate on the Address in reply to the speech as being one of the desirable measures that would be brought before the House if time could be found.

Yesterday, as both Liberal and Conservative leaders made clear to her that time must be found, Mrs Williams gave details of her legislative proposals, indeed, in some of those, particularly in the law giving parents certain rights over the choice of schools for their children, the secretary of state is likely to have more opposition from certain sections of her own

party than from the other side of the House.

Behind the scenes there is considerable controversy over the idea of parental choice, with opposition coming from Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, and behind him from his wife, Mrs. Caroline Benn, who has been campaigning against statutory rights on those lines.

Indeed, Mr. St. John-Stevens, the Conservative spokesman on education, opened the education Bill into the realm of reality, demanding to know who was the secretary of state. "It is had enough having Macbeth in the Cabinet, but we do not want Lady Macbeth around too," he said.

It was extraordinary that Mrs Williams had outlined the contents of a Bill that was not before the House. It had vanished without trace, its contents had been sedulously leaked to the press, including *The Times* and *The Times Educational Supplement*. The Bill was a great educational mystery, like the Shaggy Holmes story of the dog that did not bark.

But yesterday Mrs Williams made clear that with a possible general election in the not too distant future she cannot afford to herself and the party to appear to be ignoring parental feelings over the education of their children. Opening the second day of the debate, with the Prime Minister seated behind her as she spoke, she told the Commons that the great Debate on education showed the desire of parents to be more involved in their children's education.

She hoped it would be possible to include in the legislative programme for the coming session a Bill that would help to open up schools to the community through a fresh approach to school government and to give parents more say in the schools their children attended.

Mrs Williams gave a general welcome to the day's report on education, but she said she expected that the proposed legislation will concentrate on three of its main recommendations: that every school should have its own board of governors; that each board

should be made up of equal numbers of parents, school staff, representatives of the local community, and of local education authority; and that parents, staff and governors should be chosen through school-based elections. She felt that that would not diminish the professional responsibility of the teacher or the statutory right of the local authority, but it would create a kind of forum for discussion, explanation and consultation that would enable them to open the relationship between schools and the community.

Mrs Williams went on to say that the law of school admission, but it would create a kind of forum for discussion, explanation and consultation that would enable them to open the relationship between schools and the community.

Although most parents would want their children to attend a school nearest to their home, admission procedures should take account of parental wishes and parents should have that preference taken into account with other relevant factors. The legislation would also require authorities to set out admission procedures clearly

and provide for a coherent system of appeals by parents, first to the local authority and then to ministers.

She added that other parts of the Bill would extend mandatory awards to certain courses provided in Community centres, simplify arrangements for provision of school uniforms and empower the secretaries of state for education and for Wales to commission education research and development by local authorities and other bodies.

The Bill would also give statutory backing to the industrial scholarship scheme, which aims at attracting more of the most able entrants of higher education into engineering, science, technology and design, and to support grant would provide for a thousand more teachers for deprived areas and would also increase the number of discretionary awards to

students not eligible for mandatory grants.

At the time of the Chancellor's statement Mrs Williams spoke only of an extra £1.5m for education, which she said would provide for the additional teachers, so that leaves £1.5m for extra discretionary awards.

In practice all the extra money becomes absorbed in the global sum handed out to local authorities in the rate support grant, which they can spend in any way they wish. So there is no guarantee that any of the £1.5m will be used for more teachers or additional discretionary awards.

Mrs Williams also said that she was launching a £3.5m programme for support training in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and design and technology, three areas in which there are acute shortages of teachers.

Of this month a circular to authorities on the kind of information that should be made available.

When she first announced in the Green Paper on education in the summer that authorities were to be asked to carry out a review of curricula arrangements in their areas, Mrs Williams spoke of a circular going out in the autumn, with the expectation of replies coming in 12 months later.

Yesterday, however, she said that local authorities would have to submit details of arrangements for the department by the end of next June. No circular has been sent out yet.

A group has been set up to study 16-plus examinations. Mrs Williams also announced that she had decided to set up a small group under an independent chairman to study the Schools Council proposals for non-A level pupils who wish to continue for only one year in the sixth form.

Parliamentary report, page 3

Reducing the sacrifices at pagan winter festival

By Robin Young

Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Britain officially goes in blazes tonight. Though we have Guy Fawkes and the 1605 gunpowder plot the excuse, some historians claim that we are really indulging in an ancient tradition derived from pagan winter festivals.

The pagan Christmas, Celts, Saxons and Vikings all burned bonfires and sacrificed at the beginning of winter to keep away evil influences, maintain the earth's fertility and keep themselves warm.

The authorities are hoping that sacrifices this year will be kept to a minimum. There has not been a fatality from Bonfire Night fireworks since 1971, but every year many people, principally children under 13, are injured.

Last year 685 people required hospital treatment, though that was an improvement, the number who were seriously injured was up on 1975.

The demand for fireworks is unabated. This year many retailers appear to have underestimated it and many reports that they have been hard put to meet late repeat orders.

Though the number of British fireworks manufacturers has dwindled in the past few years, their hand-packed products have rocketed in price. It is estimated that 130 million fireworks will be going up in smoke tonight.

Warnings of the dangers involved have been given on television, radio or in the night for three weeks. The Firework Makers' Guild has printed 120,000 posters spelling out the Firework Code.

There will be more organised displays than ever this year. London alone has more than 30. At the Pickers Lock Centre, Edmonton, one typically elaborate display will be exploding 65,000 fireworks in the space of 65 minutes, finishing with a fiery portrait of the Queen to the strains of "Land of Hope and Glory".

Displays being their own risks and injuries reported from them have been increasing. Yesterday a spokesman for the Firework Makers' Guild gave a warning against confusion: organised displays with care, where local authorities have issued permits, are in particular order in parks available for fireworks.

The Guild regards the latter as "extremely dangerous" because inadequately supervised children might endanger each other by misuse of fireworks. The Red Cross advises all parents organising bonfire parties to be sure to have a damp blanket and a bucket of water to hand, and a first-aid kit for minor accidents.

Farm workers' 13 pc deal puts minimum at £43

Farm workers in England and Wales have been awarded average increases of between 12 and 13 per cent, compared with the Government's 10 per cent guideline.

The agreement means weekly increases of between £4 and £7.5, raising the basic minimum from £39 to £43 a week.

Customer foils raiders

Armed bank raiders who shot and wounded a Securix guard, escaped empty-handed at Bank of Scotland, Glasgow, yesterday, after one of the bank's customers, who was tackled by a customer, who snatched their bag containing a few thousand pounds.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY: Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts: Warm, Cold, Occluded. Symbols: sun, cloud, rain, snow, hail, fog, etc. (See page 12 for details.)

Today

Sun rises: 7.1 am. Moon rises: 1.43 pm. Sun sets: 4.27 pm. Moon sets: 12.51 am.

Tomorrow

Sun rises: 7.2 am. Moon rises: 12.51 am. Sun sets: 4.22 pm. Moon sets: 2.9 pm.

Yesterday

Temp: max, 6 am to 10 am, 12°C (54°F); min, 6 pm to 9 pm, 8°C (46°F). Humidity, 6 pm to 9 pm, 59 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, 5.5 in. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,008.5 millibars, rising.

Overseas selling prices

Gold, 1000/1000. Silver, 1000/1000. Platinum, 1000/1000. Palladium, 1000/1000. Rhodium, 1000/1000. Iridium, 1000/1000. Osmium, 1000/1000. Cobalt, 1000/1000. Nickel, 1000/1000. Copper, 1000/1000. Zinc, 1000/1000. Lead, 1000/1000. Tin, 1000/1000. Aluminium, 1000/1000. Magnesium, 1000/1000. Iron, 1000/1000. Steel, 1000/1000. Cast iron, 1000/1000. Brass, 1000/1000. Bronze, 1000/1000. Pewter, 1000/1000. Pottery, 1000/1000. Glass, 1000/1000. Jewellery, 1000/1000. Textiles, 1000/1000. Food, 1000/1000. Drink, 1000/1000. Tobacco, 1000/1000. Medicine, 1000/1000. Cosmetics, 1000/1000. Perfumes, 1000/1000. Books, 1000/1000. Music, 1000/1000. Games, 1000/1000. Toys, 1000/1000. Furniture, 1000/1000. Appliances, 1000/1000. Electronics, 1000/1000. Computers, 1000/1000. Telephones, 1000/1000. Radios, 1000/1000. Tapes, 1000/1000. Records, 1000/1000. Films, 1000/1000. Video, 1000/1000. Cameras, 1000/1000. Binoculars, 1000/1000. Telescopes, 1000/1000. Microscopes, 1000/1000. Calculators, 1000/1000. Clocks, 1000/1000. Watches, 1000/1000. Jewellery, 1000/1000. Textiles, 1000/1000. Food, 1000/1000. Drink, 1000/1000. Tobacco, 1000/1000. Medicine, 1000/1000. Cosmetics, 1000/1000. Perfumes, 1000/1000. Books, 1000/1000. Music, 1000/1000. Games, 1000/1000. Toys, 1000/1000. Furniture, 1000/1000. Appliances, 1000/1000. Electronics, 1000/1000. Computers, 1000/1000. Telephones, 1000/1000. Radios, 1000/1000. Tapes, 1000/1000. Records, 1000/1000. Films, 1000/1000. Video, 1000/1000. Cameras, 1000/1000. Binoculars, 1000/1000. Telescopes, 1000/1000. Microscopes, 1000/1000. Calculators, 1000/1000. Clocks, 1000/1000. Watches, 1000/1000.

Statutory spending on assembly

Continued from page 1

voted to hold an immediate spending, by postal ballot, at its voters. Mr. Abernethy, who visited the islanders, said: "I shall be surprised if they don't vote 'No'."

Others at Westminster tended to dismiss the point. But Mr. Abernethy said that he was asking the Government to agree to referendums for Scotland and Wales, a serious matter. He points to the 60 per cent of potential North Sea oil that is to come ashore in Scotland.

"We are not talking about Pinfold," he said. "We are the Scottish nationalists to get control of the new assembly, Shetland, Far and Hebrides."

"I am sure that the whole of the United Kingdom will support the whole strategy upon which our present economic plans rest."

Of course, the Government in no way could give up control over North Sea oil to the proposed assembly. It is given specific devolved legislative powers (whereas Wales is given only administrative or executive powers) but in the same closely defined areas as before, such as parts of health and education policy. The exclusions still run to many pages of an appended schedule.

First, negotiations from the Scottish National Party emphasized that party's predictable displeasure. Even as an interim arrangement the minimum acceptable was a designated share of the rural tax revenue according to the Government. Mr. Gordon Wilson, MP for Dundee, East, exclaimed:

But the Government was offering only a "free" loan in the midst of election, but with only a few, proportional representation, allies to be found on Labour and Tory benches the chances for a Liberal amendment look slight.

Other changes in the Bill include, for Scotland, the power of the assembly to dissolve itself, provided there is a two-thirds vote; elections would only be for the unexpired remainder of the fixed four-year term.

Responsibility for implementing EEC and other international obligations is devolved, with the Government retaining the power to breach occur in such obligations.

The Welsh Assembly is specifically given the power to review the structure of Welsh local government. That was announced by Mr. Gerald Howells, Liberal MP for Cardiff.

In Scotland, on the conduct of legal proceedings about rivers, there are important new provisions for devolution issues. This is whether any act of the assembly or action of the Secretary of State for Scotland is within their respective competence.

The change is that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is to be the final court of reference. The previous objection has been that the Secretary of State had too much power in this regard.

Rare Tournai tapestry sold for £26,000

By Our Staff Room

Correspondent

A rare Tournai tapestry of around 1500 was sold at £26,000 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000) at a sale of tapestries at Sotheby's, London, yesterday. The tapestry, which is a copy of a 15th-century original, is a fine example of the Tournai style, with its characteristic bold outlines and rich colours.

There were not, however, buyers for all the tapestries. A

Sir Harold Wilson takes a professional's look at twelve predecessors

By Alan Hanniffy

Which British prime minister was so drunk in the Commons that he could not see the Speaker? Who was caught at Windsor Castle with his trousers in disarray? Who fulfilled his three ambitions to head the country, marry an heiress and win the Derby? And who was the last of his immediate predecessors for the greatest number of book signings in one week?

The answer to the last is Sir Harold Wilson, and the replies to the other three are contained in his latest work, a book called *My Years in Office*, which is a collection of his memoirs of his predecessors.

For the record, they were the younger Pitt, Palmerston and Russell. Sir Harold, who chairs always to have nurtured an ambition to be an historian, offered a

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National Theatre in financial difficulty

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Peter Hall, the director of the National Theatre, said yesterday that the financial difficulties of the theatre seemed to have reached a point at which the Government would have to intervene.

The deficit this year is believed to amount already to over £100,000, and Sir Peter thought it was inevitable that such losses were incurred, he felt the time had arrived for a remedial action from the Government.

Officials at the theatre said that the organization was underfunded, and that that was recognized by the Arts Council and the Greater London Council. They pointed out that it cost £1m a year to run the new building, compared with very small costs for running their previous home, the Old Vic.

They could not make any further cuts, it was argued, and could hardly do any better business at the box office, as nearly all performances were sold out.

No specific application for extra funds is likely to be made to the Government in the immediate future, but talks are going on all the time between the theatre and the Arts Council, through which the government subsidy is channelled.

The National Theatre is not alone in facing difficulties from the expense of running a new building, although its deficit is greater than those of other new theatres. The Arts Council believes that in the long term a resolution will come only from the Government adopting a realistic approach to the funding of the arts as a whole.

An important factor will be the size of next year's grant-in-aid from the Government to the Arts Council. When that is announced, the theatre will know whether it is possible to solve the National Theatre's financial difficulties without doing so at the expense of other artistic organizations, or whether some other solution will be necessary.

An additional difficulty faced by the theatre is posed by an accumulated deficit of £400,000 due to the delays in finishing the new building. The theatre management will be meeting the South Bank Board on Wednesday to ask it to meet the deficit.

The manager of a bank in north London yesterday handed £30,000 to a gang who burst into his home after he had left for work and held his wife and two children hostage.

Detectors were searching last night for three men and examining a grey van used by the gang. Mr. John Paviour and his wife, Maria, were being interviewed at their home in Southgate, north London.

Mr. Paviour, manager of a branch of the Bank of Cyprus in the north-west London suburb of Hendon, said he had been telephoned to him and told him of their demands. They allowed him to speak to his wife and then made

arrangements for him to deliver the money.

He met a member of the gang driving the van near the bank.

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HOME NEWS

Week of campaigning to make good the loss of Britain's trees

By John Young
Planning Reporter

National Tree Week, which begins tomorrow, is for once something more than a well intentioned exercise giving politicians and others a chance to get some free publicity. Organized by the Tree Council, it is the start of an increasing campaign to persuade the public that something drastic and perhaps irreversible is happening to their landscape.

In the past few years the loss of trees to the combined ravages of disease, drought and the building of roads, has been a national disaster. The statistics are fearsome: nine million trees have died of Dutch elm disease, perhaps twice as many have been lost to the axe for building and development, and countless millions of mainly young trees and saplings failed to survive the 1975-76 drought.

According to Mr. John Yeoman, director of National Tree Week, Britain has less tree cover than any other country in Europe except Ireland. Only about 10 per cent of the land is wooded, compared with 20 per cent in France and 10 per cent in the densely populated and intensively farmed Netherlands.

Apart from Dutch elm disease, the main natural predators have been beech bark disease, colloquially known as "beech rot", because it causes lichens to become brittle and break off, and ash dieback, which causes discoloration in symmetrical. That was first noted in London about three years ago and has since spread over a radius of more than 150 miles. Grey squirrels have also caused extensive damage, notably in the Chilterns.

Felling for urban development and road schemes, perhaps inevitable, has been compounded by farmers' practice of grubbing up trees and hedgerows to increase acreage and facilitate ploughing.

East Anglia is estimated to have lost four fifths of its trees in the past 25 years, and hedges have been removed at the rate of 7,000 miles a year; the practice is now spreading from the fertile country of eastern England to the grazing lands of Somerset and Devon.

It is not only the ecological consequences, the loss of visual attraction and the decline in bird and insect life that concern the Tree Council. There are also economic implications, such as the erosion of topsoil and the fact that Britain already imports nine tenths of its commercial timber needs.

Public funds for tree planting schemes are channelled through the Forestry Commission and the Countryside Commission, but the response varies from excellent, as for instance, new town development corporations, to indifferent by some local authorities. Given the high costs of planting and the low survival rate in the early years of young trees, the money available is quite inadequate.

There would like to see 40 million new trees planted in the next 25 years, but has set a target of 20 million just to retain the status quo. The aim of National Tree Week, however, is not just public bodies, but also the general public, from landowners to schoolchildren. In Mr Yeoman's words: "We can no longer just leave it to nature".

From the Carolingian era are two beautiful leaves from a book cover depicting the Last Supper and the Agony in the Garden, dating from the tenth or eleventh century.

Another leaf of a book cover, depicting Daniel in the Lion's Den, is of great freshness and beauty and believed to be of English origin, possibly from Bayeux or the twelfth century.

A fragment depicting "The Miracle of the Jew" part of a diptych attributed to the Master of the Kressmünster Diptych, represents the fourteenth century. The sale has been negotiated by Christie's.

Luton Hoo, a fine Adam house in a Capability Brown garden, was acquired by Sir Julius Wernher in 1903. He filled the house with art. In 1948-50 Sir Harold Wernher, Sir Julius's son, created a museum wing in the house which he opened to the public.

Ceding the ivories to the nation will enable the rest of the collection to be kept together for public display at Luton Hoo.

The ivories will be transferred from the private museum at Luton Hoo to a publicly owned museum.

Proposals made by 10 authorities to the Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mr. Kenneth Robinson, were received yesterday.

She had received proposals from 27 authorities and agreed another 10 should be given more time to submit proposals in substitution for the 10 already received.

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Young musicians at auditions in London yesterday for the first European Community Youth Orchestra.

Wernher ivories bought for nation

By Geraldine Norman

The nation has acquired the medieval ivories from the Wernher collection at Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire, in the "lost" year after the death of Sir Harold Wernher in 1973, it was announced yesterday.

The net sum that is worth to the Wernher estate has been announced at £350,000. That implies an open market value of the ivories of about £700,000.

The ivories, nine pieces, include a tenth-century triptych of the Virgin and Child, a superb example of the best period of Byzantine ivory carving.

From the Carolingian era are two beautiful leaves from a book cover depicting the Last Supper and the Agony in the Garden, dating from the tenth or eleventh century.

Another leaf of a book cover, depicting Daniel in the Lion's Den, is of great freshness and beauty and believed to be of English origin, possibly from Bayeux or the twelfth century.

A fragment depicting "The Miracle of the Jew" part of a diptych attributed to the Master of the Kressmünster Diptych, represents the fourteenth century. The sale has been negotiated by Christie's.

Luton Hoo, a fine Adam house in a Capability Brown garden, was acquired by Sir Julius Wernher in 1903. He filled the house with art. In 1948-50 Sir Harold Wernher, Sir Julius's son, created a museum wing in the house which he opened to the public.

Ceding the ivories to the nation will enable the rest of the collection to be kept together for public display at Luton Hoo.

The ivories will be transferred from the private museum at Luton Hoo to a publicly owned museum.

Proposals made by 10 authorities to the Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mr. Kenneth Robinson, were received yesterday.

She had received proposals from 27 authorities and agreed another 10 should be given more time to submit proposals in substitution for the 10 already received.

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Windscale report expected at end of the year

From Peter Wright
Science Editor

The report to the Government on the recommendations of the Windscale Inquiry should be ready about the end of the year, Mr. Justice Parker, the inspector, indicated at the close of the tribunal yesterday.

Surveying the mass of evidence which has grown into a pile of documents about 14ft high in the 100 days of hearings, which began on June 14, Mr. Justice Parker said that his most difficult task was ahead.

Normally he was closing a public inquiry by giving a summary of the evidence and making recommendations. It was into an application for planning permission to establish a plant for reprocessing irradiated nuclear fuel and support site services at Windscale and Calder works, Sellafield, Cumbria.

Yet the establishment of the inquiry has been a source of many objections to the expansion of nuclear power, believed it was not sufficiently wide-ranging to discuss matters that involved important issues.

The value will be assessed from the way the pile of information on national and international energy policies, proliferation of weapons, threats to the environment from radioactive waste, risks from accidents and terrorism, and many other topics are disclosed in form for a decision by the Cabinet.

The inquiry achieved its first objective: to put, for the first time, the debate about nuclear power to the test of cross-examination by the most rigorous processes of advocacy.

On the surface the issue was straightforward. Should Britain build a new factory costing £600m, which would be financed largely by Japanese electricity companies who wanted to build a waste nuclear fuel to Windscale for reprocessing?

Closing the case for British Nuclear Fuels, Lord Sillitoe said yesterday that the inquiry had gathered an enormous amount of information, some said too much, and others said too little, but he believed there was ample for the inspectors.

He recognized many of the anxieties expressed by opponents, particularly concern about future generations; it was not descendants who would be affected by the plant, but the future generations.

If the decision was in favour of the application it would be helpful to show that those who did not oppose nuclear power did not mean to be inane, he said, that they were being irrational.

They might be creating greater risk if they succeeded in their opposition, Lord Sillitoe declared.

Mr. Justice D'Arcy ruled that a confession given by Liam Patrick Townsend, aged 24, an unemployed joiner from Meigh, Co. Armagh, was given voluntarily and without threat or inducement.

His earlier statements, including a confession alleged to have been dictated to a police officer, were ruled inadmissible on the ground that Mr. Townsend had been denied his constitutional right to see a solicitor.

Mr. Justice D'Arcy said he was satisfied that Mr. Townsend had confessed on May 30, two days after his arrest, to shooting Robert Mair, who died, and appeared from outside a shop in Drumcree, Co. Armagh, on May 15. His body has never been found.

The alleged statement that Mr. Townsend had said he was a member of the Official IRA, "I told him I did not believe him, that he was a British soldier and I had to kill him."

He said he hit the captain on the head with his fist and with the butt of his gun. The statement added that Captain Mair said: "You are going to kill me, can I have a priest?" "He was in a bad way, I signed at his head. I only put one in him. The gun missed a few times. I left the body there and went home across the fields. I don't know where the body is, and that is the truth."

Mr. Justice D'Arcy also said that a later alleged statement, made after Mr. Townsend had seen a solicitor, was also inadmissible, and not only voluntary but volunteered.

Mr. Townsend had said to two police officers: "Will I be hanged for this? I will swing for this. I will kill myself."

The court, which had considered the admissibility of the statement for two days, rejected allegations that there were threats to put Mr. Townsend across the border, said that he was put against a wall, held down and shouted at.

Mr. Justice D'Arcy said: "We are satisfied that between 4 pm and 7 pm there was a deliberate and conscious denial of access to a solicitor and therefore a breach of constitutional rights."

Those statements were "tainted with constitutional irregularities". Any exhibits recovered as a result of the statements, including two guns found in a field, were also inadmissible, he said.

The trial continues on Monday.

Arrangements were being made by Bradford council officials last night to open a temporary market after a fire badly damaged John Street market early yesterday.

About 150 stalls and a dozen shops on the perimeter were destroyed in a 30-minute blaze, which was fought by a hundred firemen, four of whom were injured. The damage is estimated at more than £1m and some small traders lost their livelihoods.

Anti-crime shop has to close

An anti-crime shop run by the police in Peckham, London, has had to close two months early because there were not enough officers to man it. It was opened near the town centre in publicize the "Beat 78" campaign of the Metropolitan Police and during October handled more than a hundred inquiries.

During the month it was in operation, the police there treated two men for burglary, dealt with three accidents, and helped businesses to modernize their security precautions.

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Columnist case to continue in new year

The hearing by a London industrial tribunal of the unfair dismissal claim of Mr. C. Gordon Tether, the *Financial Times* columnist, who was dismissed 13 months ago after a protracted dispute over the editor's control of his articles, is likely to set up a new record for length.

Yesterday, after 16 daily sittings, the tribunal adjourned until the new year, when the hearing is expected to occupy at least a further 15 working days. The previous longest hearing lasted 16 days.

Mr. Tether, aged 63, wrote the newspaper's *Lombard* column for 21 years, an achievement that merited an entry in the Guinness Book of Records for a contribution written by one man for the longest period.

Throughout the hearing Mr. Tether has been assisted in the presentation of his case by his wife, Iris, 63, and his daughter, Melanie, aged 21, who has just come down from Somerville College, Oxford, with an honours degree in politics and economics and his son, Tristan, aged 18, who will be going up to Balliol, Oxford, to read politics, philosophy and economics.

Mr. Tether, of Lawford Hill Road, Worlestone, Surrey, has rejected the newspaper's compensation offer of full pay until normal retirement age and an unexpired pension. He seeks reinstatement.

Mr. Tether, continuing his cross-examination yesterday of Mr. Geoffrey Owen, deputy editor of the *Financial Times*, asked whether it was right that the work of a journalist recognized as independent should have words introduced into it which he did not write and which he did not have written.

Mr. Owen replied that any *Financial Times* journalist had to accept the possibility that the editor might wish to change a word, sentence or paragraph in his articles.

Normally such changes would take place after consultation, which might or might not lead to agreement and acceptance by the writer concerned.

He did not recognize the existence of a separate category of journalists known as an independent columnist: if that category was taken to imply that someone in it was not subject to the same disciplines and relationships with the editor as any other journalist.

Mr. Tether said that in May, 1974, Sir Harold Wilson referred to him in the House of Commons as one of the most distinguished independent writers. Would Mr. Owen not say that if people thought a columnist was independent that they would assume that all that which appeared under his name came from his pen?

Mr. Owen said that if people knew how a newspaper operated and how writers worked they would be aware that any writer, however distinguished, might have some words or sentences changed by his editor.

Asked whether it had ever occurred to him that Mr. M. H. (Freddie) Risher (the editor) and he were in the wrong in their judgments on this (Mr. Tether's) work, Mr. Owen said they had discussed it at great length and felt they were doing the right thing in the interests of the newspaper.

Squatting initiatives 'may make matters worse'

By Odr Planning Reporter

Squatting is a subject for concern to politicians, Mr. F. S. Minister for Housing and Construction, told the annual conference of the Institute of Housing in Brighton yesterday.

Mr. Minister said that, while he considered "one-off" squatters would not work, but might make matters worse, he said, only the simple-minded would think squatting simply as an issue of "law and order".

Of course, the disruption caused to housing programmes by some squatters, delaying rehabilitation schemes has had serious consequences, and I have also been particularly worried by reports of squatters taking over homes allocated to bona fide tenants, he said.

Concerned to back the system indirectly, some quarters had prevented people living in poor conditions from being decently rehoused.

Some homeless people had squatted in desperation, he said. The duty to help them did not justify some groups, answerable to none but themselves, and a few more concerned to back the system than to use the democratic process to improve housing conditions, in dictating to local authorities to whom they should offer tenancies.

Mr. Fyfe suggested that more authorities and housing associations should arrange for the prompt use of short-life properties.

or the "big brother metropolitan council".

"If you try to identify the problem before raising the loud voice of total objection you may find a mutually acceptable solution," he said.

Mr. Minister said that he found it difficult to find a middle way between the planning and development proposals that can be made acceptable if suitable conditions are imposed.

Members of local councils could make a really positive contribution to the planning process by first examining a project in detail at the local planning authority's offices and by talking to the developer before taking up too firm a position.

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WEST EUROPE

Socialist unions in Madrid accept austerity measures

Madrid, Nov 4.—Senor Felipe Gonzalez, the Spanish Socialist leader, today won a victory for himself and Senor Adolfo Suarez, the Prime Minister, by persuading the powerful Socialist trade unions to drop their opposition to an austerity programme designed to cure Spain's economic ills.

The programme was adopted last month by Senor Suarez, Senor Gonzalez, Senor Santiago Carrillo, the Communist leader, and other opposition officials to reduce a 30 per cent inflation rate, an unemployment rate of almost 10 per cent and a growing foreign debt.

The Communist unions accepted it, but the Socialist General Union of Workers (UGT) immediately attacked it because it restricts wage increases and under certain conditions allows employers to dismiss up to 5 per cent of their workers.

The UGT had pasted walls and underground stations in Madrid with thousands of posters calling on workers to oppose the programme. These were an embarrassment to the Socialist Workers' Party of Senor Gonzalez, which had been assumed to control the UGT.

Senor Suarez made his first official visit to Brussels today and held talks with Mr Roy Jenkins, the EEC Commission

president, and other commissioners. In July Spain applied for membership of the European Community after its first democratic elections in 40 years.

EEC sources said today's talks centred on the preparation of the Commission's formal "opinion" in Spain's application, the first part of the process leading to membership.

Senor Suarez has now visited every EEC capital except Luxembourg to rally support for Spain. He has found strong political support for the application, but also concern about the economic and institutional problems which enlargement of the Community poses.

Carrillo said: "Senor Carrillo said tonight that the point was he received at Kremlin celebrations of the Russian Revolution showed some Soviet leaders still opposed Eurocommunism."

Our foreign correspondents still not got used to the idea that Communist parties are independent," he said when he returned from Moscow. In the Soviet capital, he was not invited to deliver a prepared speech at a Kremlin rally during celebrations this week marking the sixtieth anniversary of the revolution, although he was invited to deliver a speech at a far less influential foreign Communist parties.

Mr Lévesque hints at Quebec 'third way'

Paris, Nov 4.—Mr Lévesque, the Quebec Premier, today hinted at a "third way" of settling the question of Quebec. He did not elaborate, but he suggested it might "return to the normal members of the world confederation."

Addressing a press conference at the end of his three-day official visit to France, he said that he was having comprehensive and careful opinion polls organized in the province. The findings were not being published, but they showed that he had an "extremely good" chance of winning a referendum on whether the province should become a sovereign state.

The referendum would not be held, however, until a comprehensive education on the voting public had been carried out. This would not be propaganda but informative. Mr Lévesque thanked France in general and President Giscard d'Estaing in particular for the warmth of his welcome. The President, he said, had made it clear that Quebec could rely on the support of France whatever it chose to do. France, he said, understood "the God-given right of the people of Quebec to decide their own future."

French questioners at the conference wanted to know principally if his decision to come here had been an electoral gimmick by the French Government to woo the Gaullist vote at the coming elections. Mr Lévesque replied that he just did not know, although

as a practising politician himself, he could understand the argument. The questions in English sought to discover just what he thought he had achieved by his visit. He expanded again on the warmth of his welcome and pointed out that the French proposals put forward in the joint statement issued at the end of the visit, particularly the annual meetings of heads of government, announced yesterday.

Our Ottawa Correspondent writes: Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, said last night that his Government was following Mr Lévesque's visit to France with "some attention" and would tell the French Government if it did not agree with the reception accorded to him.

However, the Prime Minister, speaking at a press conference, carefully avoided making any judgment on the unprecedented welcome given the Premier, which has drawn splash headlines in some Canadian newspapers.

Mr Trudeau had been asked if Canada found any statement by President Giscard d'Estaing that France recognized Quebec's right to self-determination.

Mr Trudeau noted that the United Nations Charter talked about self-determination of peoples. "I don't think even Mr Lévesque would agree with the self-determination of peoples of Eskimo and Indian culture within the so-called independent Quebec."

Mr Georges Seguy, the general secretary of the Communist CGT and the Socialist CFTD, have decided to call on their members to take countrywide action against the new illusory promises put forward yesterday by Mr Barre, the Prime Minister, in an attempt to bring down food prices.

Mr Georges Seguy, the general secretary of the CGT, said that against "the wall of intransigence" of the Government and the employers there would have to be equal action. He said the measures have also been not over-popular with the organizations of the shopkeepers who are in effect blamed and penalized for the rise in food prices.

Dutch political negotiations collapse again

From Our Correspondent Amsterdam, Nov 4.—Negotiations between three Dutch political parties on the formation of a new government have broken down for the fourth time since the general election last May.

There is every indication that the collapse of talks between the Socialists and the Christian Democrats is now final. The third party, the small Liberal Democrats, are in overall agreement with the Socialists. The cause of disagreement this time was the refusal by the Christian Democrats to drop Mr Grootenboer, their parliamentary leader, as their candidate for the important portfolio of economic affairs. His opinions are considered too conservative in Labour circles.

Bundesrat move to monitor terrorists' legal talk

From Patricia Clough Bonn, Nov 4.—The West German Bundesrat (Upper House) today voted to submit a controversial Bill to the Bundestag (Lower House) which would allow the supervision of conversations between jailed criminals or suspects and their lawyers.

The Bill is based on the strong suspicion that some of the "terrorists" lawyers actively conspire with their clients. This suspicion was strengthened by the discovery of plots, explosives, a communications network, a radio and other objects in cells at Stammheim jail, near Stuttgart, after the deaths of the three Baader-Meinhof terrorists.

The Government has three months to present the Bill to the Bundestag where the Social Democrats are unlikely to let it pass, at least in its present form. The Bundestag alone can enact laws, although the Bundesrat is composed of representatives of the 11 Länder, can propose legislation.

The majority regard the Bill, which would enable a judge to sit in on conversations even if a lawyer were not present, as an infringement of civil rights. It proposes instead that the jus-

tice authorities be given greater powers to be suspicious to years from contacts with their clients and to introduce glass partitions to stop the smuggling of messages and for hidden objects.

The question of supervision is the principal threat to the collaboration on anti-terrorist legislation between coalition and opposition parties which was agreed after the Schleyer kidnapping. A Social Democrat speaker warned the Bundestag speaker yesterday on presenting a Bill reduced the chances of all parties agreeing on a common line.

The federal criminal office meanwhile issued its third appeal to the public to collaborate in the search for the kidnappers and murderers of Dr Schleyer, the industrialist's president.

Bonn, Nov 4.—A unit of 35 men within the federal police force is to be set up to hunt down suspected terrorists. It was announced today. Herr Werner Maihofer the Interior Minister, said the team would be under the command of Herr Ulrich Wegener, the leader of the GSG9 anti-terrorist squad which snatched the hijacked airliner at Mogadishu last month and freed 86 hostages.—Agence France-Press.

OVERSEAS

US to send St Stephen's crown to Hungary

From Bernard Gwertzman Washington, Nov 4.

The Carter Administration, in a significant move towards improved relations with Hungary, has decided to give back the ancient crown of St Stephen, the symbol of Hungarian nationhood that has been in American custody since 1945.

Administration sources said that the decision was conveyed to Hungary members of Congress yesterday. It was also learnt that Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, intends to deliver the crown and the accompanying jewels to the Government in Budapest at the end of President Carter's planned visit to the country from November 22 to December 2.

The decision to return the crown jewels is regarded by Administration officials as a symbol of the changes that have occurred in Hungary in recent years as Mr Janos Kadar, the Prime Minister, has led the country into becoming perhaps the most liberal of the East European states allied to the Soviet Union.

The move was also described as an important step towards normalizing ties with Budapest. Now that the "crown issue" is settled, it is expected that steps will be undertaken to extend non-discriminatory tariffs, the "most-favoured nation" treatment to Hungary.

The ancient crown was sent as a coronation gift to Stephen, Hungary's first king, in the year 1000 by Pope Sylvester II. The Byzantine-style crown is studded with gems, decorated with miniatures depicting religious scenes and surmounted by an inclined cross. Besides the crown, the other jewels include a gold sceptre and orb and a gold-encrusted royal mantle.

The regalia has had profound national symbolism for Hungarians, who trace their country's nationhood and connection to Christianity to that period.

The jewels were turned over to American military authorities at the end of the Second World War by the Hungarian military guard in charge of the crown, who feared that it would otherwise fall into the hands of Soviet troops. After 1945 it was sent to West Germany for a few years, where it was kept in a vault until it was eventually transferred to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where it is now.

The Hungarian leaders repeatedly asked for its return, but as relations worsened in the wake of the communist takeover in 1947, the United States refused to consider the request.—New York Times News Service.

Charge against Watergate 'plumber' dismissed

New York, Nov 4.—Allegations that Frank Sturgis, convicted of Watergate burglary, had threatened a witness to seven days before President Nixon's inauguration, were dismissed today for lack of proof.

Mr Alan Broome, a district attorney, said that the FBI had found no evidence to support the charge. He said that the FBI had found no evidence to support the charge.

Mr Sturgis, a former Central Intelligence Agency informant who says he attempted to assassinate Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, had been found "to contain no threat."

Miss Lorenz, a former Central Intelligence Agency informant who says she attempted to assassinate Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, had been found "to contain no threat."

She said that she had made several phone calls to Mr Sturgis in which he warned her that if she gave evidence before the committee, "the company" would take care of her.

Mr Broome, in moving for dismissal, said: "The lack of substantiation of her claims impairs her credibility."

Mr Sturgis narrowly avoided a peeing with a banana cream pie on his face. He was arrested on Monday night, leaving most of the pie on the ground and on the shirt.

Mr Sturgis maintained that he had never threatened Miss Lorenz, who alleges that Mr Sturgis shot at President Kennedy on the day of his assassination in Dallas. Miss Lorenz had Mr Sturgis arrested on Monday night.

Mr Sturgis was released from jail on Wednesday night on a \$10,000 (£2,000) bail.

Former Rhodesian 'public enemy' urges reconciliation

Mr Sithole courts the whites in his search for future power

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Nov 4.

The Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, who until recently was labelled by Rhodesian whites as "public enemy No 1," has courted the whites in an impressive suite of offices in the heart of Salisbury.

Sitting behind a large leather-tipped desk in a smartly cut suit and with a noticeably expanding waistline, he looks more like a business executive than a nationalist leader.

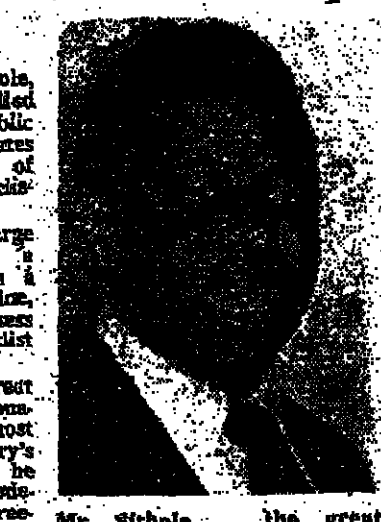
Mr Sithole is the great enemy of Rhodesian nationalism. He argues that the most intellectual of the country's black leaders, for years he maintained that Black Rhodesians would only achieve freedom as a result of bloodshed.

"No suffering, no independence," he once stated, and spent eight years in detention for canvassing such revolutionary ideas.

Since his return in July he has fondly retained his revolutionary ideas. He argues that Mr Sithole, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, has accepted the principle of majority rule as the objective of the armed struggle has been achieved.

He says it is the time to make the transition to lay down their arms.

During the past three months Mr Sithole has been preaching unity and reconciliation. He has also been trying to establish a power base in Rhodesia, with some apparent success. A number of senior offi-



Mr Sithole... the great nationalist enigma.

cials of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council have withdrawn allegiance and joined his organization, the African National Council (ANC).

He has also lured away some rank-and-file Muzorewa supporters. Mr Sithole claims he now has sufficient popular backing to win an election but most independent observers doubt this.

He has also been wooing whites, addressing farmers and businessmen with his message of moderation. An independent Zimbabwean under his rule would, he says, be a non-racial society with a mixed economy and equal rights for all.

Twenty per cent of the seats in Parliament should automatically be held by whites.

Of all the nationalist leaders Mr Sithole has been the most positive in his response to the Anglo-American proposals. Unlike the leaders of the Patriotic Front, nationalist alliance, he has no serious objection to the role of Lord Carver, the proposed resident Commissioner, or to the proposals concerning the armed forces.

He is not, however, very optimistic about the chances of the plan succeeding. Largely because, in his view, Rhodesians want to hand over power to the Patriotic Front. The front, he says, is a "Foreign political arrangement designed to reap the rich harvest of independence for the benefit of those who have been harshly rejected by the people of Zimbabwe."

Mr Sithole's diatribes against the Patriotic Front are undoubtedly partly a result of his leaders, Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, capturing most of the international support he once enjoyed. It was recognition of his almost total isolation after the organization of African Unity summit in Salisbury last July that persuaded Mr Sithole to return to Rhodesia.

That has brought him back into the mainstream of Rhodesian nationalist politics. But it remains to be seen whether he can expand his support within the country sufficiently to assure success if Mr Sithole agrees to one-man-one-vote elections.

grant from the United States Government, would be capable of carrying 200 passengers more than 5,750 miles, our Air Correspondent writes. Five turbojet engines would power it from take-off until it reached 600 mph when five ramjet engines using liquid

hydrogen fuel would take over, accelerating the airliner to its cruising speed at up to 120,000ft. At that altitude, Lockheed believe, the sonic bang would be so dissipated by the time it reached the ground that it would probably not be heard.

Charge against Watergate 'plumber' dismissed

New York, Nov 4.—Allegations that Frank Sturgis, convicted of Watergate burglary, had threatened a witness to seven days before President Nixon's inauguration, were dismissed today for lack of proof.

Mr Alan Broome, a district attorney, said that the FBI had found no evidence to support the charge. He said that the FBI had found no evidence to support the charge.

Mr Sturgis, a former Central Intelligence Agency informant who says he attempted to assassinate Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, had been found "to contain no threat."

Miss Lorenz, a former Central Intelligence Agency informant who says she attempted to assassinate Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader, had been found "to contain no threat."

Smith-Carver meeting fixed for tomorrow

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Nov 4.

Field Marshal Lord Carver, the British Resident Commissioner-designate in Rhodesia, is to extend his stay in Salisbury by two days in order to see Mr Smith the Prime Minister.

It was announced tonight that Mr Smith, who is fulfilling a number of public engagements as well as attending a cricket tournament in Bulawayo, will have talks with Lord Carver on Sunday morning. Lord Carver will then fly to Bulawayo.

Mr Smith's unbridled approach to Lord Carver's talks reflects the general acceptance in Rhodesian Government circles of the present Anglo-American initiative.

He said in Bulawayo today that Britain was "trying to put the cart before the horse" by working towards a ceasefire without giving a clear indication of the terms of a future constitution. While this was so things would never get off the ground, he said. There could be no progress unless certain political decisions were made first.

Mr Pieter van der Byl, the Foreign Minister, has been even more outspoken. Speaking in Parliament he compared the Anglo-American proposals to the Allied demand for an unconditional surrender during the Second World War.

Despite these public utterances, Lord Carver believes that some progress was made during the two rounds of talks he has held since his arrival on Wednesday. Rhodesian security force commanders and other officials in the talks covered both military and constitutional matters concerning the transitional period.

British sources have emphasized that they regard the talks as being exploratory at this stage. A further visit by Lord Carver to Rhodesia is considered likely.

Mr John Graham, a senior Foreign Office official specialising in Southern Africa matters, is now in Salisbury to discuss an independent constitutional of the Government as well as the two internally-based nationalist leaders, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

Today Lord Carver had rounds of talks with Bishop Muzorewa and Mr Sithole during which broad agreements were reached on the main points contained in the Anglo-American settlement plan. The main concern of both leaders was their belief that Britain was attaching too much importance to the externally-based Patriotic Front which is currently in a guerrilla war in Rhodesia. As Bishop Muzorewa put it after his meeting with Lord Carver: "The British are far too wedded to the Patriotic Front."

This is a point of view which the two nationalist organisations share with the Rhodesian Government. Lord Carver has tried to argue that the Patriotic Front, by virtue of its international recognition and the backing given it by the "front line" states is a necessary part of any settlement.

However, on most other matters, including the role of the Rhodesian armed forces during the transitional period, the British position is fairly close to that of the nationalists. As neither organisation has any army of any consequence the need to preserve at least part of the existing Rhodesian forces, is recognized.

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Turkish film stars to march over censorship

From Susan Fiske Ankara, Nov 4.

Between 200 and 300 members of the Turkish film industry will start walking from Istanbul tomorrow on a three-day march to Ankara in protest against the new film censorship decree imposed by Turkey's three-party right-wing coalition Government.

The marchers will include cameramen, script writers, sound men, directors, producers, extras and actors, with many of the big stars of the Turkish cinema leading the way.

This will be the first time since film-making began in Turkey—with a 1914 documentary on the demolition of the Russian monument at the Hagia Sophia, near Istanbul—that the whole ideological spectrum of the Turkish cinema has been united.

The organizing committee of the march includes Senra Ozdemir, a film actress, and political activists, and three idols: Cüneyt Arkın and Turhan Akin. The "tough guy" roles of the former and romantic leads of the latter are guaranteed box office hits.

The Turkish Cinematograph Association in Istanbul will also join the march, said today that the "grande dame" of the Turkish cinema, the doe-eyed Turhan Akin, was among the first to take part in the march from the Anatolian resort of Kizildarmaci, near Ankara, where they are on location.

The first unified action taken by the Turkish cinema, said Artika Dorsey, calls it, aimed against the censorship decree imposed on September 23.

Most legal experts agree that the decree is a disaster. It has effectively outlawed a host of censors, nine of whom 10 members come from the army, the police, and the Interior and Justice Ministries. The tenth member is from the Tourism Ministry.

Mr Sadat repeats call for preparatory peace talks

From Edward Mortimer Cairo, Nov 4.—President Sadat has revived his proposal that the Geneva Middle East peace conference should be prepared by an informal working committee.

In a television interview recorded on the flight back from talks in Saudi Arabia yesterday and broadcast in Egypt tonight, Mr Sadat emphasized the need for "careful and adequate preparations" for the conference.

A working committee would be needed to make these preparations and to draft the agenda.

This work should be done by all the parties to the conference, namely the two co-chairmen, the United States and Soviet Union—Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, the Palestinians and Israel.

Egyptian officials explained privately that what the President had in mind was not a formal committee in which all parties sat down together (something that could come only with the conference proper) but rather an informal process.

It would probably take the form of proximity talks, with Arab and Israeli delegates either in adjacent hotels or on different floors of the same hotel. (As happened in the Rhodesian armistice talks of 1949), and talks through a liaison officer, most probably Mr Sadat's negative attitude.

A further difficulty is that by including the Palestinians in his list Mr Sadat appears to beg one of the main questions the "committee" would have to deal with, namely that of Palestinian representation.

Apparently his idea is that Mr Vance would have talks with a group of Arab delegates who would not be given separate national labels, and who would include one or more Palestinian representatives.

The United States is committed not to have any direct dealings with the PLO until it accepts Security Council resolution 242, recognizing Israel's right to exist.

Violence stops Mrs Gandhi visiting Andhra Pradesh

From Richard Wigg Delhi, Nov 4.

Mrs Gandhi today cancelled "indefinitely" plans to begin a speaking tour tomorrow in a third state of southern India after her appearance in two other states before Congress resulted in serious violence.

The former Prime Minister, who had gone south in an effort to show rival Congress Party leaders they badly needed her crowd-drawing capacity, herself suffered a cut below the right ear from a splinter of glass when the car she was travelling in yesterday was stoned in Karnataka, the former state of Mysore.

Aides said the cut was not serious and Mrs Gandhi addressed the meeting she was going to at Shimoga, 150 miles north of Bangalore, before a doctor attended her.

About 3,000 demonstrators, carrying black flags (the equivalent of "Go Home" notices) had paraded and heckled her throughout her speech. They were local supporters of the Communist Party, which rules in Delhi, and of the Marxist Communist Party.

Last Sunday two people were shot dead and more than 40 injured in Madras when Mrs Gandhi spoke there and elsewhere. Tamil Nadu state has been in a state of emergency since then.

Today's cancellation of the visit to Andhra Pradesh after yesterday's troubles in Karnataka has particular significance for assembly elections are due next spring in both states which are at present Congress-ruled. The friend of supporters of Mr Brahmananda Reddy, the Congress president, who Mrs Gandhi's supporters have been campaigning for the past month to oust, has been strengthened.

Mrs Gandhi's supporters advised her to leave because they should not have anticipated that her appearance in the south, where Congress remained strong in the national election last March, would be seized upon by local Janata Party workers, or those of regional parties with a grievance.

Media attention: India's state-run television and radio networks are to be given EEC-style autonomy, Mr Desai, the Prime Minister, promised today.

Speaking to government information officers in Delhi at the end of a week during which the State Commission's hearings into the excesses of the emergency have disclosed the way the two bodies slanted the news under Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Desai also promised that constitutional safeguards will be enacted to ensure freedom of the press.

The said legislation was being prepared to ensure that neither the television nor All-India Radio was used "as a Government agent."

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An intimate tribute by Sadruddin Aga Khan on the centenary of his father's birth

The Aga Khan: from Curzon to Hitler, a man always at the centre of history

My father, the late Aga Khan, was born 100 years ago on November 2. Though he died in 1957 at the turn of what Winston Churchill aptly termed "this tormented half-century", few today can separate reality from myth when looking back on his long and active life.

To many in the West he remains the religious leader who was weighed against precious stones, the race-horse owner who won five Derbys or the man whose eldest son, Aly Khan, once married Rita Hayworth.

For those who are more familiar with the East he was the most gifted hereditary religious leader or forty-eighth Imam of some 12 million Ismaili Shia Muslims who are to be found from the Great Wall of China to the southern tip of Africa, a direct descendant of Prophet Mohammed and a true believer in the precepts of Islam.

Students of history or the older generations may recall the Aga Khan as a statesman who was received by Queen Victoria in 1898, became the youngest member of Lord Curzon's Indian Legislative Council in 1902, presided the Muslim League from 1906 until 1912 and led the Muslim delegation to the Round Table Conference in 1930 which paved the way for the independence of the sub-continent.

In addition, 1937 saw him preside over the All-India League of Nations when he later visited Hitler in Berchtesgaden in a last-ditch effort to avert war.

For one, of course, he was all of these things and many more. It remains challenging but essential for the son of any great father to do away with the labels which are inevitably attached by history to the public figures of our time and to attempt an impartial assessment. This I hope to do in a book some day.

My father was first and foremost a deeply religious man who had no difficulty in integrating an active political and social life and everything it entailed in terms of formality and obligations in the post-Victorian era, with the close communion with God which is the aspiration of every practising Muslim.

The older staff at the Ritz in London or the Suite 666 in the front of the Hotel de Russie in Geneva in the thirties, might recall the Aga Khan facing Mecca at prayer time on one of the balconies, completely oblivious to the stares of surprised bystanders. Muslims who journey westward are no longer the exotic objects of interest which they were in those days.

His foresight in other matters was also Islamic sense of unity in all forms of life which confirmed my father's faith in

a God-governed order. He achieved a synthesis which enabled him to conciliate his faith in the Almighty as well as in Darwin's theory of the origin of the species which swept across Europe in his youth and generated such heated debates.

It was difficult for him to separate what he called proto-religion and proto-science; they made their journey like two streams, sometimes mingling, sometimes separating but running side by side. For him Marxism was a religion where matter is the supreme power.

He sought the company of scientists since the time when, against orthodox medical opinion, he had himself inoculated publicly at the age of 20 during the Bombay epidemic of bubonic plague in 1897. This prompted others to follow and many lives were saved as a result.

He has not forgotten his heated conversations with Professor Leakey in Nairobi when the first remains of man were made in the Rift Valley, or his exchanges with Professors Bogomoletz or Niehaus on longevity.

My father was a pragmatist when it came to politics. His main concern was the welfare and development of his community and as such, he deliberately chose to work closely with the administering power in the countries where the Ismailis lived in 1914.

Again, in 1939, he resolutely threw in his lot with the British and spared no effort to ensure that Muslims everywhere should fight alongside the allies.

This nearly cost him his life in 1917 when the German secret service sought to assassinate him in Lucerne. He left him unshaken and he never chose to have any form of personal protection.

His optimistic faith in man and his desire to avert war had caused him to be swayed by a deeply religious man who had no difficulty in integrating an active political and social life and everything it entailed in terms of formality and obligations in the post-Victorian era, with the close communion with God which is the aspiration of every practising Muslim.

He thus mistakenly chose to support the Munich settlement and said so in a much criticized article in *The Times*. It was with a sense of bitter disappointment, therefore, that he vigorously denounced Hitler's aggression and at once issued a strong manifesto urging his followers to give their fullest support to Britain. This was the aim of his visit to India in 1939-40 when he personally campaigned in favour of British war aims and endeavoured to act as an intermediary with Reza Shah of Persia.

His foresight in other matters was also Islamic sense of unity in all forms of life which confirmed my father's faith in



A great figure of the turf: the Aga Khan at the races with his eldest son Aly Khan

"Commonwealth" came into use, my father advocated, at the beginning of the century, the creation, under British inspiration and guidance, of a South Asian federation of self-governing states extending from the Malayan peninsula to the confines of Egypt.

When the First World War ended, he endorsed the building up of a Federal Union of Arab States and Turkey with a single defence force and a united foreign policy. This could have achieved practical results in the security and stability of the Middle East, transcending, in my father's words, "anything that the

makeshift, haphazard policies of the years since the end of the conflict and particularly piecemeal withdrawal of political suzerainty by Britain have been able to effect."

While working for independence, he was concerned about the post-colonial vacuum and big-power rivalry in the Muslim world following the break up of political entities through nationalism and violent change.

My father abhorred injustice and fought actively for both human and civil rights at a time when it was hardly a fashionable pursuit. He resigned from the exclusive St. Cloud golf club near Paris when some members objected to Sugee Ray Robinson—the black boxer—laying on the links. In Aix-les-Bains, one day, he rebuffed the pompous head-writer of the *Hotel Splendide* who refused to seat a large group of Senegalese students and promptly invited them to a three-star lunch.

He was deeply shocked by the ruthless and arrogant discrimination practised by whites in America, India and China. During his visit to China in 1906, he remarked: "Within the general settlements the Chinese are treated as second-class citizens. All the better hotels refused them entry. From European clubs they were totally excluded. We hear a great deal about the colour bar in South Africa today. In China, in the early years of this century, the colour bar was rigidly imposed—not least offensive in discrimination against officials of the very government whose guests under international law all foreigners were supposed to be. Is it any wonder that the Chinese—intelligent, hard-working, intelligent—lost their bitter memories of this attitude?"

Absolute power, if unalloyed, is equally despised: my father's comments on the Qajar Shah Musafaraddin—to whom he was closely related—are indicative in this respect. He exhibited, in an especially lurid light, all the dangers of the old-fashioned autocratic oriental monarchy. However, in competent, shrewd or cunning, such a despot was not one of the sole and intelligent statesmen of the world around him ever stood up to him and told him the truth about himself. The autocrat was surrounded by a kind of mental paralysis even in good and sincere men, so that they were quite unable to see the danger of a kind which we cannot communicate because it is something given and not something acquired."

For my father, education was undeniably a priority and his community exemplified the success of his policies. Ismaili

men and women, the latter among the first to shed the veil, are well-equipped in this respect. Ismaili institutions have provided a network of social, economic and cultural amenities which are unrivalled in many developing countries. These were made possible to a great extent by the wise administration of funds raised in connection with the traditional jubilee wedding ceremonies.

The community took up the lion's share of my father's time and attention. This was—*he put it—his job*. Thousands of Ismailis were received every year and those who did not meet their Imam individually were in contact with him when he visited their country. He was highly accessible and seldom left a letter unanswered.

And yet he found time for journeys to centres of art and culture and I recall the importance he attached to my visiting the great museums of Europe. He owned no collections of his own, cared little about the decor of his residences and spent a great deal of time in houses—but loved the opera and the ballet. Serge Lifar, the great Russian dancer, will never forget the time when my father gave him a considerable contribution in cash—trapped in newspapers to get his company out of financial straits.

If greatness there was, during his long and active life, then it rested on an oddly balanced mixture of Islamic belief, philosophy and Western logic and science born out of the industrial revolution; it allowed for reform and vision in both thought and action and, in retrospect, would seem to disprove Kipling's famous pronouncement. As my father was truly the product of a meeting between East and West.

A century is a time to pause, look back and establish a link between the prologue of the past and the realities of today.

My father undoubtedly left a deep and meaningful imprint on the Ismaili community and the Muslim world. In addition, he contributed in no small way to shape the course of recent history.

But for me, his message remains that of a tolerant and loving father always at peace with himself, particularly in sickness and when life ebbed away, convinced, in his own words, that he "experienced moments of enlightenment and knowledge of a kind which we cannot communicate because it is something given and not something acquired."

The author is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

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George Hutchinson

The miners may save Mr Callaghan if they do not sink him

Miners rule, OK? If the slogan has not yet appeared before our eyes, chalked up in huge letters or more probably sprayed in the modern manner, the thought is already present in many minds. It is an uncomfortable one. Must the impression—or the belief or the fear—become a reality?

This is certainly Mr Scargill's hope and intention if we are to define his bold ambition as a determination to impose the will of the NUM on the Government. Lacking titular supremacy, Arthur Scargill is nevertheless the most influential and intelligent of the union's leaders. He has become a formidable political figure.

If Mr Callaghan were to succumb to the demand, the miners would indeed have ruled—and ruling then would no doubt continue to rule as opportunity offered. But Mr Callaghan cannot afford to surrender. Nor can the nation afford to let him surrender. If he gives way, we all give way not only to the appalling rise in the cost of living that would follow but to a further diminution of public authority. These are painful prospects to contemplate.

What can the Prime Minister do? He has little choice. Mr Callaghan's only immediate course is to encourage negotiations with as much patience and care as he can summon up, hoping that the NUM may be persuaded to reconsider, revise and moderate a claim which the Government could not concede in its existing magnitude or dimensions. It is difficult to envisage any modification calculated to satisfy the miners without destroying the pay code.

Fresh force now to the debate

Their demand has been pitched so high that even cut in half it would still gravely exceed "permitted" limits—a phrase which at once returns us to a familiar debate. I mean the debate in which one side maintains that an incomes policy without statutory force is useless because the "voluntary" principle is unfair and ineffectual in application, and the other side, in a more or less exaggerated form, maintains that it is a necessary precondition for any move to a new lease under the provocation of the miners' action.

Meanwhile we are reminded of the debate in 1973, which led up to the ill-judged and ill-fated election of



Arthur Scargill: a victory for which party?

February 1974. The events of that dismal time come readily to mind, and were in some respects similar. But there are important differences.

For one thing, the Heath Government was fairly widely mistrusted within the Tory union movement. The Tories were accused of being "anti-union" and of wishing to "take" the miners. The charge may have been unjust and mistaken, but it was a strongly affected national sentiment.

Four years ago, moreover, there was much public sympathy with the miners and support for their claims. The same cannot be said today. If they were to persist, and ultimately to strike they would surely forfeit what little good-will remained to them outside the coalfields.

Nor do I believe that Mr Callaghan would be inviting certain defeat if, in the event of a strike, he felt obliged to put the issue to the test of a general election. In those conditions there are many who would think it "safer"—or less chaotic—to return a Labour Government than to entrust a settlement to the Tories. The reasoning might be at fault, but it would influence the vote.

The dangers are not peculiar to one party. Both are at risk. The Tories would be reckless to assume that electoral fortune was bound to follow from national misfortune.

Not long ago, Mr Scargill was predicting a Tory victory at the next election. In the absence of industrial upheaval and dislocation on the scale to which his own actions may lead, the prophecy would no doubt be fulfilled. But if the worst should happen he might well be proved wrong. He might yet succeed in rescuing Mr Callaghan and robbing Mrs Thatcher.

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This attachment to the bizarre in Judith Rossner

Judith Rossner's immensely successful last novel, *Looking for Mr Goodbar*, was about a young teacher who spends her nights in New York singles bars, and was murdered. *Attachments*, out this week, is about two close friends who marry Siamese twins, joined by the abdomen. This concerns the bizarre and the horrific, so fiction keeps a pace ahead.

And yet it is not easy for a reader to move beyond the material. The fact is, and this is the first to agree, having thought a great deal about the implications of using it, that *Goodbar* was so successful because sexual violence is powerful. And *Attachments* has made its way into the American best seller lists (in less than two months) at least partly because such an innately repulsive subject is also attractive, particularly when the author is as unassuming about the physical details of life as Judith Rossner.

To read the book at all one has to stop wondering why she chose to write about it in her words, "freaks" and pass beyond them to what it is about—the theme of separation and attachment in relationships. The symbolism in the use of twins joined physically to each other, and later surgically

separated, surely carries this theme to absurdity, yet it does not intrude in a book which is almost as funny and touching as *Goodbar*.

Judith Rossner is 42, an unmarried and slightly self-mocking woman with frizzy hair and a long face which she tilts upward. She writes novels because she is, she says, too wordy for short stories, and that precisely what she likes doing is making mountains out of molehills.

She dropped out of New York City College when she was 19, since she was already writing and working, and something had to go. She tried publishing, but gave it up when she found she was using the same energy that went into her writing. She became a secretary instead, a job she has returned to ever since when she has needed the money.

After 17 years of marriage she has found and planned to support herself and a while by writing a piece for a women's issue of *Esquire* about a teacher of deaf and dumb children, whose murder in New York revealed a mutilated and lonely double life. The man who had murdered her was awaiting trial, so the project became fiction and she turned to Mr *Goodbar*, crystallized by an accident in which she fell asleep at the wheel and was badly burnt. "I started thinking about the question of responsibility for one's own fate," she says. Mr *Goodbar* is about just that responsibility.



Photograph by Brian Morris

In the late 1950s she read about Siamese twins in America who had married two sisters. "What interests me is why people are so repelled when, after all, everyone started life attached. In a sense the twins have never been born because they are still tied by an umbilical cord."

Attachments is not really about freakishness; it is about loneliness, and about the relationship between the two wives—daughters, mothers, friends—are one of my strong interests," she says.

Judith Rossner sees herself as a pure novelist, and says

that she tries hard to get clear of all facts, that she makes up a pompous and pretentious journalist, and that only fiction gives her the cover she needs. For her next book, set in the nineteenth century, she wanted the real dates of a certain character. She searched three cemeteries for a tombstone. When she was sure the dates were not to be found she felt "free as a bird." "Now," she says with obvious relief, "I can make them up."

She is a disciplined writer—or so she says friends tell her, comparing her to "other authors—working three hours a day at the start of a book,

and building up to a crescendo of 16-18 hours at its peak. She did four and a half drafts for *Attachments*. Because her previous books have now been published, she can afford not to mind quite so much if people do not like every word she writes. She says her life now is close to perfection as she lives in a small house in New York, (called Journey's-End when she found it) bought with the proceeds of *Goodbar*, and money to do what she wants, which is to write.

Caroline Moorehead

Local radio: a better chance coming to tune in

When Lord Anson said: his team of broadcasting futurologists were at work, they were speaking of a "new" radio.

People who complained that the way in which the BBC and IBA organized British radio and television resembled a feud between Montagues and Capulets.

The eventual Anson response may have seemed something of a plague on both houses, recommending the creation of two new authorities, one to administer the fourth television channel, the other to run local radio.

The next political move is not expected until January and the odds are now shortening on a decision to do nothing for the time being about the fourth channel, and to proceed with the Anson's proposed Local Broadcasting Authority.

The growing likelihood of a thumbs-down to the LBA—designed to take over the organization of all local broadcasting throughout the United Kingdom—will add an extra significance to the celebrations in Leicester on Monday to mark next week's tenth anniversary of BBC Radio Leicester.

It is the first of the post-war generation of local radio stations. In a sense, what happened a decade ago in Leicester (accompanied by the murder of a bomb scare), marked the completion of the broadcasting full circle.

Forty-five years before, there had been other local BBC stations, the best-known among them 2LO in London, with STI in Birmingham and 2ZY in Manchester.

By then, therefore, local radio ought to be available to virtually every definable community in the country. Instead of leaving bees on whether the next stations will be in Truro or Coventry, the broadcasters should be preoccupied, for example, to open up a range of urban community stations.

Local radio ought to be built in to new towns, along with the power and water supplies; areas of London like Lewisham and Brixton could be providing an ideal setting for "precinct" radio stations able to confront the "urgent" social problems at the closest possible range. Full time broadcasting services for immigrant communities should by now be high on the priority list.

Before that happens there are geographical gaps to be filled in the local radio map. But if, as seems likely, a local radio is made, in January, to allow the BBC and IBA to take

only a small step forward, it will be familiar stuff for the local broadcaster. It has been the victim of consecutive political decisions which leave London with three stations, places like Sheffield with two, yet Bristol only one. While there is a local radio station in Cardiff there is none in Cardiff.

While it is possible to hear radio Derby in Birmingham, it is not always possible to tune in to Radio Birmingham inside its own city limits. Not surprisingly, Anson's predecessor, on this unsteady scene, "local radio is in a mess"—received general support.

Lord Anson gave both organizations a draft specification of his vision in this year's Fleming's lecture: "If ever there are centres which need local radio, they are Ultrapool, Oban and Dolgellau." There are as yet no signs of a redraft of these particular decisions.

What has happened, in the face of the Anson Committee's proposed LBA, is that both BBC and IBA (which entered the local radio scene in 1973), have drafted a new plan aimed at expanding the existing 39-strong group of stations into a nationwide network of 100.

In the meantime, while the broadcasters wait for action, there is not only a mounting audience for local radio, but a growing enthusiasm across the United Kingdom for the whole idea of community broadcasting. The appearance of a BBC executive in Northampton a few weeks ago was enough to persuade the local evening paper to make the occasion and the possibility of BBC Radio Northampton, its front page story.

There are, however, areas of anxiety amidst the broadcasters' enthusiasm as the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, decides what to do next.

The well-publicized difficulties of the BBC have to be considered at a moment when the possibility of an internal pay struggle, he followed by next year's bargaining with the Government over the licence fee, would make ITVs *Hard Times* a more appropriate offering from BBC 1.

There have been some moments larger than local life to impress the Home Secretary as he contemplates the future. A schoolgirl called Pam Ayres made her broadcasting debut on BBC Radio Oxford three years ago with her poem, *The Battery Road*. Poetess Philip Toynbee, a recent recipient of the same

sort of fate for the rest of us came to the nation via a Radio Clyde broadcast.

Mr Rees will also be armed with figures which show that where it can be heard local radio is challenging and, in some areas, out-distancing the national networks in the share of the audience. And he has more than enough evidence to convince him that local radio is proving an effective means, as Anson put it, of combating loneliness, isolation and fragmentation of communities.

From Belfast to Brighton it now has a track record of providing genuine service to the community and it is this unique strength, whether a reflecting life as it is, in mobilizing volunteers to help the sick and elderly, teaching pensioners to read, finding jobs for the young, let alone minding their own business, which will ensure that there will be more stations on the air by 1980.

With that date in view, it seems likely that the decision to be taken in the first few weeks of 1978 will be to permit a further phase of expansion through an additional 10 stations or so. The Home Office and the two broadcasting organizations may get together to decide who will go where. Given the commercial operators' freedom from licence fees and the current surge in audience and advertising revenue, an increasing number of stations now have monthly advertising receipts in six figures, the stage could be set for an additional half-dozen independent stations to bring the LBA tally up to 25.

Where would that leave the BBC? Still very much in the local radio arena, and with vigorous redevelopment plans either in mind or in being for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Since the corporation is involved already in small-scale operations in Orkney and Shetland, notably enabling it to field a 22-strong local line-up, both the British enthusiasm for compromise and the need for visible cost-consciousness might be met by permitting an additional three BBC stations.

It would then, very nearly, be 25-odd between Montagues and Capulets.

Marshall Stewart

The author was editor of *Radio 4's Today* programme and a chief editor of *Independent Radio News* and *London Broadcasting*.

Farewell my lovely... at least I hope so

An occasional series on new words and new meanings.

Everything not just in the garden, but also in the pub, the shop, the bus, the street, and all the other meeting-places and talking-shops of life, is suddenly lovely. Pay for a purchase, buy somebody a drink, give up your seat to somebody else, and the odds are a hyper-market to a television-dinner of fish fingers that she or he will thank you by saying: "lovely". People used to express their casual gratitude by "thank you", "thanks", or "ta"; with "luv" or "hen"

tacked on the end as an optional extra depending on the region in which the thanking was being done. In the past year or two the popular word for trivial thanking has suddenly become lovely. Like much raging slang it is odd and crass.

How can this have happened? It is too new a usage to have been noticed by even the most recent lexicographers. *Lovely* started its life in old English as an adjective meaning loving, tender, or authority than King Alfred used it as an adverb to mean affectionately. Malory used it to mean amorous. Then the slow semantic erosion of the cen-

tures wore away the amiable connotations, and the word came to mean "delightful", "highly excellent", as a general term expressive of enthusiastic adulation. So by 1653 Isaac Walton's *Complete Angler* could say: "Come let's to supper. Come my friend Coridon, this Trout looks lovely."

There the word rested until the middle of this century, when we gave lovely an absolute or substantial sense to mean a lovely creature, usually, in the male chauvinist 1930s, a female. The earliest authorities cited by the *OED Supplement* are Auden and Isherwood: "It (sic the working class) prefers our larger and livelier organs of enlightenment, which can afford snappier sports news and bigger photographs of bathing beauties."

This lovely noun as snapper has no obvious connexion with lovely as thanks; unless the extravagant supposition is made that at some time in the late 1960s shop assistants and bus drivers on masse started chatting up their female customers by addressing them as bathing beauties. *Lovely* to it seems to have started life as a response for some slight service rendered, for example giving exactly the right money for something bought in a shop. Now it has grown and weakened to become an automatic response to any money being handed over,

whether precisely the right amount or not.

On *The Duchess of Duke Street* on television the other night Mrs Trotter asked an American staying at the hotel during the First World War if brandy would suit for the offered drink. He replied: "Lovely" with a loud crash of macabre that offended the ears of one of our best poets, as well as the ears of others who care for such things.

Such vague silliness usually has a fast and furious life, and dies young of over-exposure. Oh, wouldn't it be lovely-lee if such a fate were to overtake lovely.

Philip Howard



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LIGHTS OUT

The bargaining season for electrical power workers is in March, when the thaw has usually set in and the nights are drawing out. November is a much more advantageous time for power workers to remind the public how useful they are. Like the miners, they are among the industrial groups most able to disrupt the basic services of society. But the NUM is a relatively united national force, more punctilious than most unions about referring major issues to its members before taking action, and so all the more formidable when it does act. It remains a minority pressure group prepared to impose its will forcibly, none the less. But there is even less rhyme and reason about disruption of a small group of dissident members of several unions, most of which are only concerned with electricity supply as one preoccupation among many.

If one fifth of coal miners' downed tools, the effect on supply would not be immediately perceptible. But electricity cannot be stored in quantity; the marginal output in peak hours is highly vulnerable to action by a few workers. In spite of the efforts of the generating boards to spread power cuts fairly and give warning, blacking out large areas of modern cities cannot be accomplished without immense public inconvenience and some

serious danger. The sick, the disabled and the old are particularly at risk, and it is quite possible that there may be deaths which would not have occurred if there had been no cuts. Even today, this disregard for a special responsibility to the public (freely taken on) merely for the sake of one's immediate and narrow interests, should be recognized as repugnant.

These risks with the welfare of the community are being taken because of three fringe benefits claims. Wage bargaining in the industry is highly centralized, and the unions involved had been slow to take up the grievances until the go-slow attracted their attention. One demand—travel allowances for those whose journeys to work have been increased by the building of new power stations away from towns—has now been conceded. It had some justice (similar allowances are not uncommon in private industry), though not enough to justify the breach of the twelve-month rule.

The other demands are more contentious and could not be accepted without gross infringement of the pay guidelines. The men are opposed by their employers, their unions, and by the TUC, as represented by Mr Len Murray yesterday. Their unions have much to answer for, having failed either to give effective representation or to impose effective disciplines on members abandoning the proper

negotiating channels. The management's position is delicate, for actions that might be perfectly proper might not necessarily be those best calculated to bring about a resumption of supplies. Even if workers are in breach of their contracts, dismissal might only gain them sympathy. The decision not to pay them is abundantly justified.

This is a case—a conspicuous case, but not regrettable—an isolated one—of a group of workers inflicting on the public at large hardship, inconvenience, even danger, wholly disproportionate to the magnitude of the grievance they are seeking to remedy. There is sometimes a frightening moral blindness about collective behaviour in pursuit of a dispute about terms and conditions of employment, and an irrational loss of any sense of proportion, and a disavowal of responsibility for damage done to fellow citizens at random, damage which is directly attributable to that collective action.

The public, and therefore the public's representatives, are vulnerable to these assaults. But they cannot be accepted just as a feature of modern life, unless there is also to be accepted a chronic loss of amenity and security in the organization of society. By the mobilization of opinion and a readiness to withstand temporary dislocation these assaults have to be resisted—starting now.

NO CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

The South African pass laws are an integral part of the structure of ever-rampant apartheid. Their primary object is to control the movement of the black population, especially to white cities. Every black over sixteen has to produce one upon the hated police challenge "Where's your pass?" Failure to do so, or the proffering of an expired or invalid pass, is a serious offence generating about 380,000 court cases a year. If a pass is withdrawn, a black can be "endorsed out" to a bantustan, often a place only his ancestors had ever known.

The system, known as influx control, has been criticized even by South African commissions. Now it is to be given a facelift. The tribal homelands are henceforth to issue travel documents to their nationals, a more dignified card of identity. But these, even if upgraded to passport status upon independence, will serve the police and the Ministry of Bantu Affairs as well as the passport. Possession of one will be needed to apply for a job in white South Africa, and they will be endorsed or voided with periods of residence much

as passports are when the holder takes up foreign residence. Expiry of the endorsement means return to the homeland.

The new system in fact is meant to rivet the bantustan arrangement on the blacks, by increasing the authority of the flimsy "homeland" governments. Holders of their documents are to get preference for jobs and for the permission to remain in white South Africa. Issued with documents still issued to blacks residing in townships by the Ministry of Bantu Affairs. The object is to induce as many blacks as possible to register "voluntarily" as homeland nationals. Carried far enough this process would render South Africa a pure white country with a few million black *Ghastbeiter*.

It is the doctrine that all blacks really belong to the 13 per cent of South Africa known as bantustans which the blacks massively oppose, and which the world stigmatizes as South Africa's uniquely abhorrent race policy. Though talks with the homeland leaders were started some time ago, it is no accident that the new system is being

unveiled immediately after black organizations, leaders and newspapers were silenced, on account of their so-called campaign of racial incitement. The World would certainly have exposed and denounced it for a fraud.

One homeland executive, Chief Buthelezi of Kwa-Zulu, has refused to fall in line. The others may regret their betrayal when black consciousness and black political leadership revive, as they will. It was Chief Matanzima's acceptance of Pretoria's condition for independence, that all Xhosa were "Trankeled" (transferred) to the bantustan of Ciskei, that wrecked whatever claim he could have made for international recognition.

It is within the competence of any government to require its citizens to carry identity cards, and it may be right to control the entry of jobless and unsuitable migrants to urban slum areas. But whatever the law, it must apply to everyone, white or black. Bogus travel documents or passports issued for political and police reasons are another example of South African deviousness, and should deceive nobody.

ANDORRA MENACED BY REFORM

Once again Europe's best landlocked site for pirate radio stations, one-time nest for smugglers of French pressure cookers, a favourite in the name-dropping travel snob's repertoire, latterly the "Tangier of the Pyrenees"—Andorra is shaken by tremors of constitutional change. Word of one man vote has reached these remote valleys whose sovereignty resides jointly in an adjacent Bishop, the Spanish side, and a French line President on the French. An election has been held on the old franchise confined to heads of families and the successful candidates have cast the die. There is to be a referendum to decide whether Andorra shall cur its links with feudal habits and introduce something so new-fangled as universal suffrage; they even think of seeking greater autonomy from their princes.

At the time of the bloodless revolution of the middle-aged in 1933 *The Times* comment concentrated on the speed with which it had been effected. To change a suffrage that had

served for centuries was the work of an hour's sitting by the "general council of the valleys". The council agreed that the vote restricted to the eldest surviving family head need not be so limited. In future the great-grandfather of eighty-seven, hobbling back from the polling station, might pass his new franchise on to one of sixty-three setting out to vote—and so down to duly married twenty-five-year-olds. After this shake-up Andorra lapsed into quiet obscurity again. How could it be other than backward-looking with an anthem starting "Charlemagne my father freed me from the Moors. . . . True, war was declared on Germany but, wisely, no expeditionary force was raised.

The postwar story has been less idyllic. Commercial radio pirates got in. Protests were fired off from the Quai D'Orsay, stations were jammed, frontier taxes were slapped on. The place got into occasional headlines as "Tussle between joint rulers", "Hopes of compromise in Andorra" and before long, ominously, "Andorrans come to

terms with Today". Even then the Bishop of Urgel on the Spanish side still accepted his feudal dues in kind: a dozen capons, a dozen partridges, cheeses and half a dozen hams. And the smuggling went on: it was Andorra's national occupation.

But other opportunists soon appreciated Andorra's advantages. The capital's main—and almost only—street began to be transformed as a Hong Kong-style duty-free market place. The modern world's quick-growing fungus of fringe banks and the like invaded the "ruribankian charm" of the pavel writers. Not only did the tourists pour in, Andorra became a tax-haven for the retired, so much so that of its 28,000 estimated population less than a third are now Catalan-speaking natives of the region. And now that Spain is firmly democratic what hope is there for Andorra? One can imagine the gaily in a year or two rattling off their place to the visiting tourists on Andorra's feudal past. Smuggling might even have to be made a crime.

Religious education

From Mr Nicolas Walter
Sir, The current complaint made by many Christians involved in the present legally imposed system of religious worship and instruction in schools, that many children prefer non-Christian to Christian forms of unreason, would be funny if it were not so sad. If you teach children to have faith in and to suspend doubt about one irrational belief, how can you complain if they decide to have faith in and to suspend doubt about other irrational beliefs? The point is not what is believed but how it is believed.

Those of us who reject all forms of unreason can only comment that the pseudo-scientific superstitions mentioned by the Church of England survey (October 13) are no more irrational than religious superstitions, that the "fanciful religions" mentioned by Frank West (November 1) are no more fanciful than orthodox religions, that the "wilder aspects of the supernatural, demonology, human sacrifice" mentioned by Iror Powell (November 4) are no wilder than many aspects of Judeo-Christian religion, and that the "science fiction" religions mentioned by Martin Rogers (November 4) are no more implausible than scriptural religion.

As long as the religious and political and educational authorities insist on maintaining a system which teaches young children traditional religion without the rational and

critical approach given to every other subject, older children will continue to have irrational and uncritical attitudes to all kinds of superstition. The obvious solution is to replace the present system of instruction in religion with a new system of education about both religious and non-religious systems of belief and behaviour, so that young people will be able to make up their minds about basic questions in the light of the facts and by the use of their reason.

NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1,
November 4.

The British in Cyprus

From Mr Roger M. Wilde
Sir, Hundreds of British citizens living in Cyprus were affected by the Turkish invasion of the island in 1974. The majority of these people are represented by The United Kingdom Citizens Association, which is continually pressing the claims for compensation which have been lodged by these people. The Association has the full recognition of both the Cyprus Government and her Majesty's Government.

On Sunday, October 23, Sir Michael Puller, the Permanent Under Secretary at the Foreign Office, visited Cyprus for official talks, but unfortunately the UKCA was advised early on the Sunday morning that Sir Michael would

not have time to meet its representatives as he was only on the island for one day, and would therefore have to concentrate his time on his political contacts. Earlier in the year Dr David Owen visited the island for 24 hours, during which time UKCA representatives, together with about 12 other people, were invited to meet him at a luncheon party, which he was able to attend for only 10 minutes. Such brief contacts can only serve to confuse the mind of the visitor, however brilliant he may be.

It would seem strange that HMG can go to the expense of sending top diplomats to visit the island and yet restrict their stay to one day's duration. Surely, in such cases, diplomats should have discussions not only with the island's political figures but also with the British community and British citizens actually affected; even if it is necessary to extend their visits, thus enabling them to obtain a clearer view of the feelings of the residents. Presumably, any discussion which would affect members of all communities, would it not, therefore, be in order that factors affecting the British community should also be taken into consideration? Yours faithfully, ROGER M. WILDE, Island Chairman, United Kingdom Citizens Association, PO Box 1581, Nicosia, October 23.

Pay increase demands and industrial unrest

From Mr R. S. Dale
Sir, Lord Wilford Brown (November 2) is naive in suggesting that wage differentials should be determined by agreement between union representatives. In the first place, agreement, in the absence of accepted criteria, would never be forthcoming; in the second place, any such agreement would be an abuse of the union's traditional role which is to protect the interests of its own membership and not to decide how the national income should be allocated; and, finally, the question of wage differentials is a matter affecting the national interest and not merely the interests of employees. (Police pay relative to miners' pay, for instance, is not properly a matter to be determined by the TUC, nor even by policemen and miners.)

If we accept, as we surely must, that the labour market has ceased to function as an effective means of determining the distribution of national income, then we are faced with the following alternatives: either we reconstitute the market mechanism through a novel form of industrial structure such as producer cooperatives (a solution so ably advocated by your former Economics Editor, Mr Jay) or else we must adopt a system of national job evaluation which will have to be operated at the political level. What we cannot do is persevere with the present system of industrial relations, which is threatening the social cohesion of this country and the very framework of democracy.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. DALE,
The Old House,
Near Canterbury,
Kent.

From Sir Cyril Kleinwort
Sir, The recent behaviour of the recent strikes do not bear examination. How can one justify the intense discontent and danger to which the people of this country are being subjected by a tiny few who seek

financial reward beyond the Government's guidelines? Machinery has raised the standard of living in a modern state enormously, but this change has also given a great number of small groups of operators the power to hold the country to ransom. Human beings being what they are, this power will continue to be abused until the collapse of the economy brings in a totalitarian or another form of dictatorship.

The alternative is that economic laws are allowed to exert pressure on the strikers and not only on the employer. North Sea oil arrived just in time to subsidise a standard of living which we no longer earn. We have little time to face the truth and take action. CYRIL H. KLEINWORT,
20 Fenchurch Street, EC3.

From Dr J. R. Nash
Sir, I doubt whether the power station workers responsible for the present power crisis appreciate the consequences of their action.

During a seven-hour evening shift in the local casualty department two elderly ladies were seen as a result of a fall at home; due to poor lighting. One sustained a broken wrist and the other a broken ankle.

Yet again we have a group of workers showing no concern for the weaker members of the community. These injuries are likely to cause pain and misery long after the industrial action is over.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. NASH,
120 Winterville Road,
Leicester.

From Mrs C. M. Delahunty
Sir, Good luck to the miners in their claim for £135 per week. I myself have just had a rise; my non-contributory invalidity pension has been raised from £25.50 per week to £31.10 per week. I'm over the moon!

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE M. DELAHUNTY,
P.S. Please note that the postage stamp for this letter has taken care of no rise for the next fortnight. I will put the remaining 10 towards the Miners' Benevolent Fund.

From Mr John Barker
Sir, With the present electricity supply cuts heralding the winter

of 30 per cent and not as income where the possible maximum rate is the confiscatory 98 per cent.

The above proposals might be one to minor about, and possibly some sort of ceiling would be desirable in each case but such misuse ought to be considered negligible when compared with the possible contribution that private landlords could make towards improving housing stock over the next ten years if treated fairly. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY WIGRAM,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1.

From Sir Eugene Melville
Sir, The Director of the London Housing Aid Centre (letter, October 31), is, I think, unconvincedly hasty in his editorial of October 31, "Towards Agreed Housing Policies", particularly when he asserts that you offer "the tired old spectre of a revived private rented market—a chimera which is now widely recognised to be economically unrealistic" in place of "positive suggestions for tackling Britain's continuing housing problems".

Surely a significant reason for the increase in squatting, homelessness and the unacceptably high numbers of unfit houses is the continuing political vendetta against private landlords.

The Government's recent decision on the review of the Rent Acts acknowledges the need for a private rented sector. It is as ridiculous to assert that the private landlord has no part to play in meeting the nation's housing needs as it would be for the private landlord to assert that council housing has no part to play.

If there could be an agreed bi-partisan policy towards the role of the private rented sector this would be a first step for a saner approach to tackling our housing problem.

Yours faithfully,
EUGENE MELVILLE,
Director, General British Property Federation,
35 Catherine Place, SW1.

Mapping buried history
From Dr Margaret Gelling
Sir, The letters from Dr Webster (October 31) and Mrs Prodfoot (November 1) protesting against the proposed curtailment of the activities of the Archaeological branch of the Ordnance Survey amongst all who care for Britain's past. Ordnance Survey maps have not hitherto been mere instruments to enable the motorist to get from A to B; they have been a source of information and pleasure. Our Ordnance Survey maps have been a record and an exposition of the whole history of life in this country.

The archaeological information is vital and should continue to be supplied; but there are other factors in which the maps have become less informative recently. To take one instance, south of Birmingham there was a parish called Ipsley. The settlement is described in Domesday Book, the church still stands, and the place is of interest to archaeologists and historians. It is among other things, the location of the earliest Saxon object to be found in Worcestershire, and a place where Roman and Anglo-Saxon finds occur in significant proximity.

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Trespassing and the law
From Mr Christian Wolmar
Sir, Your correspondent David Green (Letters, October 27) makes a severe legal error in his first sentence: "The owner or tenant of property has the legal right to use reasonable force to eject a trespasser. . . ." He is referring to a single case (McPhail v persons unknown) in which Lord Denning, in an obiter statement that the use of reasonable force was permissible. However, this case pertains to very special circumstances and by no means should be taken, or has been taken, to give owners a universal right to use force against trespassers. In fact, by doing so, after December 1 when the Criminal Law

Act Part Two provisions come into force, an owner will leave himself open to prosecution under Section 6 of the Act.

Both the forcible entry Acts and the Criminal Law Act which is replacing them on December 1 afford a large measure of protection to certain types of trespassers, such as squatters of empty houses and workers occupying a factory. In making such an obiter statement, Mr Green has confused the issue of trespassers in an already occupied property (eg. a guest whose invitation has been rescinded) and trespassers on empty property or in factory occupations. Yours faithfully, CHRISTIAN WOLMAR,
Release,
1 Elgin Avenue, W9.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

months and following so shortly behind the non-delivery of bread, can your readers explain the defects of national character that permit us to be so greedy and selfish towards each other, or are these difficulties the birth pangs to be experienced on the road to true socialism?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BARKER,
5 Butterfield Lane,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire.

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Sir, I doubt whether the power station workers responsible for the present power crisis appreciate the consequences of their action.

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Release,
1 Elgin Avenue, W9.

Visit to Britain of Vaclav Kral

From Professor F. L. Carsten, FBA and Professor G. H. N. Seton-Watson, FBA
Sir, The case of Kral, discussed by Bernard Levin in today's paper (November 2) raises the whole issue of cultural cooperation between Western and Soviet-block countries. The British Academy has made numerous agreements for exchange of scholars, believing that this is possible, regardless of differences of political system; and that contacts between academics, who cultivate their own fields of learning and keep their political prejudices out of their work, is itself a desirable aim. This was our conviction in the view held not only by us but by most British scholars.

The system of exchanges has worked well, and relations of mutual confidence and even friendship have been established. And now we have the case of Kral. Our own information about this man agrees entirely with Bernard Levin's account. We feel obliged to ask through your columns the following questions.

How can the Czechoslovak Academy have brought itself to nominate such a person for an academic exchange? What sort of relations does the Czechoslovak Academy think it can have with the British Academy, or with British scholars? Does it believe that it is the duty of British scholars, in the name of détente, to submit to attacks on their professional ethos? Yours faithfully, F. L. CARSTEN, G. H. N. SETON-WATSON,
8 Bury Road, SW19,
November 2.

Violence in politics

From Lord Carr of Halden
Sir, It is not "fun", writes Mr Tariq Ali, to see the hordes of socialists attacked with fire bombs. Nor is it "fun", let me assure him, for non-socialists to have their homes blown up by explosive bombs—even if the bombs are made and planted by people who would be labelled as true socialists by such as Mr Tariq Ali and his confrères. I can indeed see why they object to being described as Mr Bernard Levin as mere "neo-revolutionaries".

If the Far Left would clearly and consistently denounce and renounce the use of violence against other people, their protestations of human compassion on so many issues might ring more true. Yours faithfully, ROBERT CARR,
House of Lords,
November 4.

Morality of guerrillas

From the Reverend Giles Hunt
Sir, The first thing I read in today's *Times* (November 1) was your account of the misery of Cambodia. Sick at heart, I turned (scowling?) to the letters, and the first I saw was the Revd Richard Harcourt's defence of guerrilla warfare on Christian grounds of a "just war".

When will my brother-clergy, and indeed lay Synod members, realize that "freedom fighters" be they people, their protestations of human compassion on so many issues might ring more true. Yours faithfully, ROBERT CARR,
House of Lords,
November 4.

From a peaceful vicarage, be it Fr Harries or mine, it is not possible to know what is going on in the rough world outside, and the clergy are perhaps shielded from knowing how much influence is wielded by unscrupulous men who rely on force. Fr Harries may suppose that the Church of England will alienate the people and lessen the chance of political victory; unfortunately, both history and current affairs indicate otherwise. Yours sincerely, GILES HUNT,
Rackley Vicarage,
Royston,
Hertfordshire,
November 1.

Electing Euro-MPs

From the Director of the Electoral Reform Society
Sir, "On what general platform can Labour candidates stand in the European Parliament?" asks John Mackintosh. Quite. While it is of course desirable that Labour voters should be able to elect their fair share of Euro-MPs, it is no small matter that the Government's regional list system counts each vote for a party, so that a vote given to a candidate because he wants to keep the parliament powerless may contribute to the election of one who will survive to make it more powerful. Or vice versa. Only the single transferable vote avoids the presence that any party is united in its attitude to the Community. Yours faithfully, END LAKEMAN, Director, Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street,
Southwark, SE1.

Forget the future

From the Reverend P. M. Haines
Sir, Once I heard a Mother's Union speaker tell her audience that "the Virgin Mary spent the nine months of her pregnancy reading the New Testament". I have had to wait 20 years for something in the same class. Now Mrs Thatcher has obliged. She has assured us that the children of Israel "were so relieved not to have been drowned that they forgot they had got to face 40 years wandering in the wilderness". Yours faithfully, PHILIP HAYNES,
St Mark's Vicarage,
22 Peaks Hill,
Tisbury,
Wiltshire.

Football

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 20 and 21

British Steel asks unions for agreement to cuts in both plant and manpower

By Paul Roudledge
Labour Editor

The British Steel Corporation yesterday served notice on the unions that the industry's financial crisis requires serious cuts in plant and manpower. But it wants to proceed by agreement rather than by confrontation.

The corporation's proposal is to reduce its manpower by 10,000 over the next two years. At a special meeting BSC management asked the unions to agree to a joint approach to the Government on economies designed to reduce drastically losses now running at £10m a week. The industry's half-year results, due to be published shortly, will show a loss of £200m.

The TUC steel industry committee told Mr Bob Scholey, BSC's chief executive, and his managers that they recognised the seriousness of the crisis. But they reiterated opposition to large-scale redundancies.

The unions have been asked to come back to the corporation on November 17 with ideas for economies.

Mr Bill Sims chairman of the committee, said that British Steel had confined its approach to generalisation at this stage. The unions opposed job cuts and blamed the mounting deficit largely on high interest payments, market penetration by low-cost imports and the depressed level of steel prices within the United Kingdom.

One proposal certain to figure in BSC's contribution to the debate on economies is the high cost—£400m a year—of maintaining plants kept open on government instructions after the Beswick review of the industry's steelmaking capacity.

These "Beswick" plants employ about 14,000 workers, mostly in development areas with high levels of unemployment. They include Shelton, Stoke on Trent, and East Moors, Cardiff, between them employing 6,400, and Hartlepool (ovens, sinter plant and slabbing mill); Clyde Bridge (openheart and primary mill); Dalziel; Lanarkshire (openheart); Ravenscraig (openheart); Hall Garton (primary and billet mill); Craigrobert (billet and bloom mill); and Gannock (openheart and blooming mill).

Premature closure of some or all of these plants will not be the only measure proposed by the Corporation, however. British Steel is shelving investment plans for a plant on the Teesside, four electric arc furnaces elsewhere, and other developments.

Manpower levels are also expected to come under scrutiny, because the much-reduced employment on Teesside, which reached in January, 1976, has reduced the industry's labour force by only 2,200 to 208,000—a tenth of the manpower reduction originally sought.

British Steel made no comment after yesterday's meeting, which lasted nearly three hours, but sources inside the corporation stressed that it wanted to proceed on an agreed basis with the unions.

That was the reason they were asked to come forward with their own views for economies that could be incorporated into a joint approach to ministers.

The TUC steel industry committee is due to meet again on Thursday, and Mr Scholey has agreed to address the Executive Council of the industry's Federation, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, on November 16.



Mr Glyn Enigland: favours dual programme for reactors

Guidelines urged for dual nuclear system

By Kenneth Owen

A nuclear power programme based on both the British advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGCR) and the American pressurised water reactor (PWR), as recommended last month by the Central Electricity Generating Board, is likely to be the basis of a dual system of nuclear power in the 1980s.

In its report on the choice of nuclear reactor systems, published yesterday by the Department of Energy, the corporation considers three variations of a two-type programme. First, a firm programme of AGRs over the next few years, with one PWR as soon as practicable.

Secondly, a firm programme of PWRs with one AGR at the start.

Thirdly, an immediate decision to order one or two PWRs and one or two AGRs, with a firm decision on their future system is approved for the United Kingdom, but delaying a decision on the make-up of a future programme.

All three variants have the advantage of dividing available resources between two systems, and to that extent running the risk of weakening the export effort on the PWR, the report says.

On the other hand, each has the advantage of keeping open the option to concentrate on whichever system seems best for the country.

It is the generating boards to say how important it is for them to keep the option open, and for how long, the corporation comments.

In practice, however, it is not likely to be a simple choice between two systems beyond the early 1980s: nor are the uncertainties which make it attractive to keep the option open likely to be resolved in the early stages of the PWR.

But "we doubt very much if a full industrial capability would be built up for two systems concurrently; and time is short if such a capability is to be built for the system we offer for export; and to meet possible domestic requirements for the 1990s."

Mr Glyn Enigland, CEB's chairman, said yesterday that the Government's Energy Secretary, Mr John Birt, last month that the generating board favoured a programme based on both the AGR and the PWR.

EEC orders 3 Asian countries to agree textile curbs or face cutback

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov 4

A warning was issued today by the European Commission, to Hongkong, South Korea and India that unless they agreed to restrict textile exports to the Community voluntarily their share of EEC markets would be cut back unilaterally and redistributed among other smaller suppliers.

This ultimatum came in a statement by Mr. Tran Van Thinh, the Commission's chief textile negotiator. He accused the three Asian countries—of which South Korea is the biggest—of being "totally unrealistic" in their expectations.

The three countries are the biggest of the 34 textile suppliers with whom the commission is negotiating the EEC member states' textile quotas under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva next month.

Without agreements with the three big suppliers, EEC officials have said they did not see how it would be possible for the Community to accept renewal of the MFA for another four years.

Mr. Tran Van Thinh said the three appeared to take the attitude that their present shares of the EEC market were "acquired rights" which could not be touched. This was a "totally unacceptable position and showed a complete lack of understanding of the situation the EEC faced."

The immediate target of the Brussels warning is Hongkong, the biggest supplier. Telling the three Asian countries that the Commission is demanding that Hongkong should reduce its exports to the Community by about 9 per cent, from 151,000 tonnes to 138,000 tonnes, Mr. Tran Van Thinh gave warning that Hongkong would face unilateral cuts unless it opened serious negotiations by November 10.

Korea is being asked to reduce its 70,000 tonnes of exports last year by about 7 per cent. According to commission statistics, the Koreans have doubled the volume of their textile exports in three years and, if present investment plans were carried through, would quadruple their

production over the next four years.

The EEC is prepared to allow India a slight growth in its 1976 export volume of 131,000 tonnes, largely because of India's recognised dependence on a large labour-intensive handloom cottage industry. But Mr. Tran Van Thinh said India would lose this "privileged treatment" if it continued to demand "unacceptably fast growth rates."

In the case of Brazil, the EEC's biggest supplier, Mr. Tran Van Thinh limited that the Commission would have to ask the Nine for authority to negotiate a special arrangement. Brazil's cotton crop was 30 to 40 per cent below average in 1976, owing to bad weather, so it would be unfair to take that year as the reference point.

The Community's aim is to hold imports of low-cost textiles to a level of about 1,100,000 tonnes in 1978, compared with 1,010,000 tonnes in 1976. This implies an annual average growth rate of about 6 per cent, compared with rates of up to 22 per cent in recent years.

It is hoped that by November 30 some 900,000 tonnes will be covered by quota arrangements under bilateral agreements.

Prices soar as diamonds make more friends

Silver Jubilee year has been crowned by diamonds. The Beers, which has the world's most exquisite monopoly (in at least two senses of the expression), has raised its prices for rough diamonds by 17 per cent as demand continues to rise.

This is the largest ever straight price increase, apart from alignment for currency fluctuations, and means that rough diamond prices have increased by 34 per cent since the beginning of the year. Sales of rough diamonds should exceed \$2,000m this year.

But do not despair—the price of diamond rings and other items should not change in the jewelry shops before Christmas.

Purify this is because the price increase is operative from the next "sight" (sale) of the Central Selling Organisation in December, the De Beers arm which controls the marketing of all but a small handful of the world's rough diamonds.

Additionally, since the CSO sells in dollars, a currency which has been noticeably weak of late, the price of diamonds should theoretically decrease in hard currency areas. In practice they will probably not, but at least any rise should be delayed.

Also, diamonds in the shops

Prices soar as diamonds make more friends

Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers, should already be reflecting any rise since the open market have been selling at a premium to the CSO prices for as long as seven months, when the last price rise was made.

Your friendly neighbourhood jeweller ignores all these factors and attempts to put his prices up by 17 per cent, it should be pointed out that the increase relates to rough diamonds and that any retail rise should be much smaller, given the immense value added element of all jewelry.

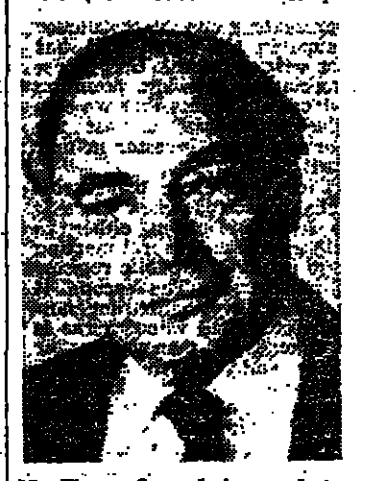
Given the fact that diamonds are perhaps the ultimate in luxury and conspicuous consumption, the diamond market is extraordinarily well regulated by De Beers, although it is naturally unable to prevent sales falling in a severe recession.

It was in fact one of the great crashes of the late 1920s that the real De Beers supremacy was born. As the world went into a major slump, demand for diamonds plummeted and producers set about cutting each other's throats in one of the most vicious price wars ever seen. Order was restored by Ernest Oppenheimer and he represented the consummation of his attempts to rationalize the South African and, later, the world diamond industry.

Despite the immense empire he created—spanning gold, platinum, base metals and industrial interests—diamonds remained the favourite of all Sir Ernest's interests. This is no less true today of his son, Mr Harry Oppenheimer, who is both chairman of De Beers and the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa.

The Oppenheimers have managed to control the marketing of rough diamonds, and to act for such disparate producers as the South Africans, Botswanans and Russians, by operating a stockpile, and by running a very sophisticated marketing campaign.

Desmond Quigley



Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers.

Britain accused of dumping in US

From Frank Vogel
Washington, Nov 4

Mr Charles Vanik of Ohio, who is among the most powerful members of Congress on international trade matters, has accused the British Steel Corporation of violating American anti-dumping laws by selling steel plate at below cost prices.

He told the House of Representatives that the Treasury had compiled figures that show that BSC was selling steel plate at prices below those offered by Japanese manufacturers. He pointed out that on September 30 the Treasury charged Japanese producers with selling steel plate at 32 per cent below the Japanese home market price.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

For most of this year the current issue of National Savings certificates have been highly attractive buys. But what about the holders of previous issues of certificates?

Dr C. W. Wickham-Jones, of Stockton-on-Tees, has drawn attention to the plight of savers who are still holding National Savings certificates issued before the war, the First to Sixth issues inclusive. It is not possible to determine the number of holders but it is known that the amount they have invested (based on the purchase price) is £4.02m.

The rate of interest on these certificates, which may be held indefinitely, is a miserable 5/12p (1d in old money) a month, a rate which will not vary "unless notice to the contrary is given by the Treasury".

The real rate of return that this interest represents is unforfeitable. It works out at just over 1.3 per cent for the First issue, rising to a generous 2.13 per cent in the case of the Sixth issue. And this is in an era when double figure interest rates have been commonplace.

Holders of subsequent issues fare much better. From time to time their extension terms are readjusted upwards and are not far out of line with the rates on the current issue of certificates. People, for example, who bought Twelfth issue certificates in 1966 will get a 7.54 per cent return on their savings this year.

Why, then, is the Government not prepared to offer similar increases to holders of pre-war certificates? It has to be assumed that it does not think it necessary to do so. The argument is, after all, that no one need stay with the old issues. They should be encashed and converted into the much more attractive current one.

Yes, of course, they should. No one would contest that point. But it is fairly obvious that the Government is probably dealing with elderly holders who do not have the initiative to do the "right" thing. A modest advertising campaign by the Department of National Savings in Scotland a few years ago failed to get the message over and the department cannot afford to circulate holders individually. But is the fact that this Government has a "captive market" any excuse for not offering savers a better deal? By the law of diminishing returns, the yield for these savers will further worsen as the years go by.

Fixed interest investment

Gilts afloat in a sea of change

The Bank and the Treasury went to sea on a beautifully buoyant pond. They took some miners and other hard-liners and rapidly ran aground. But the Bank looked up to the money supply and sounded a warning note. We hold the purse strings, we don't ask too much, we're set on keeping afloat. Affair, Afloat, Affair, We're set on keeping afloat.

The gilt-edged market, like the foreign exchange market, has been trying to find its feet since the week before last. So far it has not found its task particularly easy. On Thursday the market took a nasty lurch and it finished the week looking quite pale. When the Treasury announced on Monday morning that it was to give up the struggle to hold down the value of sterling and leave market forces to determine the currency's worth, one might well have looked to the gilt market to have responded rather enthusiastically.

Sterling raced ahead and a higher value for the pound could, after all, be expected to have responded rather enthusiastically. But the market has not responded in the way one might have hoped. It has been a little more cautious than expected.

In the event, the gilt market had to struggle to make much headway. In part, this was because the market had sensed that something was in the wind at the end of the previous week. Once the Chancellor had made it clear in his "mini-budget" that the Government had rejected the idea of neutralising the mounting flows of money into the country by permitting greater outward investment, the market immediately sniffed that the Government's apparently opposed to the idea of tighter inward exchange controls. It had only one option left to it if it was to keep the growth in the money supply under control. To choke off at least part of the overseas demand for sterling, the policy of keeping sterling artificially undervalued would have to be continued.

But this anticipation by the

NET GILT-EDGED INVESTMENT

1976 and 1977

Personal Sector

1976

Q1 +178 +768

Q2 +282 +859

Q3 +171 +592

Q4 +1,117 +3,180

1977

Q1 +369 +1,659

Q2 -180 +578

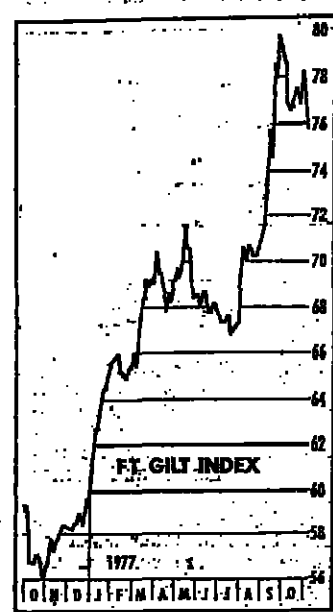
markets was not the only reason for its muted enthusiasm. There was also the technical position. Would the fact that the Government had now bowed to what many overseas investors had seen as the inevitable—and just what they had all been waiting for—now induce those overseas investors to start taking their profits?

For North American investors in the gilt market, for instance, the capital gain on the gilt holdings and the capital gain on the currency added up to profits beyond their wildest dreams—gained partly, incidentally, at the expense of the British taxpayer.

To what extent overseas investors have in fact been making profits is difficult to tell. But while the possibility has been there—and it clearly increased over the course of the week as prospects on the labour/pay front worsened—there has been little incentive for British institutional investors to commit fresh funds to the market.

What happens next? Certainly, the bullish factors are not far more abundant than they were a couple of months ago. And once a market thinks that the upside potential is increasingly limited, the temptation to take some profits obviously increases.

The bullish, or potentially



FT GILT INDEX

1976 1977

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money markets, confirming that short-term interest rates are now more likely to rise than fall.

Thirdly, any further deterioration on the pay front will upset sentiment still further. Fourthly, the monetary authorities still have to sell a lot more gilt-edged stock to keep the money supply under control over the second half of the financial year.

Finally, the personal sector could emerge as a significant seller this winter. As the table shows, the sector bought large quantities of gilts in the final quarter of 1976. Many of those holdings will now have run for the magic one year—the point after which you can take your profits free of any capital gains tax liability.

Those who wish to play safe should think about taking at least some of their profits. This is particularly true in stocks where the income loss from moving back into building societies or even National Savings is not too painful. For those who stay with their gilts the argument for thinking that any setbacks will not be too sharp or too prolonged over the coming months mainly rests on the Government's determination to stick to its guns.

John Whitmore

Taxation

Relief for those starting a business

In the economic package speech last week the Chancellor of the Exchequer showed a genuine wish to relieve the lot of the small firm. In addition to certain proposals for companies, his helping hand is to be extended to individual entrepreneurs who, against all the commercial odds, start up in business either on their own or in partnership.

It is not unusual to find that in those early formative years the firm makes a trading loss. Under present law the ways of getting tax relief for the loss are few and far between. If there is income in the same tax year in which the loss is made (such as salary from an employment and investment income) the loss can be set against it, resulting in a lower tax bill or a repayment. The loss can also be set against the spouse's income for that year, but this may not always be advisable if income is required to cover personal expenses.

If the trading loss is not wholly relieved in this way it can be set against the following year's income from all sources. The authority for these two ways of claiming relief is contained in section 168 Taxes Act 1970. Finally, if there is insufficient income in these two years to absorb all the loss the balance can be carried forward against future trading profits only (section 171 Taxes Act 1970).

Although the section 168 relief sounds generous in that it allows a set-off against other types of income, it is normally not particularly helpful to a new entrepreneur—one person who has just given up his job to start a business. He may have put all his eggs into his business basket and has little or no other income against which to claim relief. To assist the individual in this problem the proposal is that he or she should be able to obtain loss relief sooner than at present.

This can be achieved if it is suggested by allowing a trading loss sustained in any of the first three years of a new business to be carried back. The carry-back could be—let us suppose—against income from all sources of the previous year. This would include the individual's earnings from his previous employment. The result would be an immediate tax repayment giving a much needed boost to the new resources.

However, those with loss-making hobbies will find that there is little point in rushing to the tax office to hold themselves out as a business. Such a possibility was anticipated by the legislation in relation to the present section 168 relief. The rule was laid down that this type of loss claim cannot be made unless the business is carried on for a view to the realization of profit.

When, or in deference to the more cautious, if the new proposals should reach the statute book this restriction will continue to apply to the carry-back provisions as well. Indeed there may well be other constraints in an attempt to thwart the devious minds of the tax avoiders. One can only hope that the legislators' attempts to prevent abuse will not produce a law so complicated that it catches the genuine cases.

Vera Di Palma

Round-up

Property unit trust

The Woolwich Building Society has joined the ranks of those who are campaigning to make mortgage interest payments annual rather than a movable feast. It has written to its 250,000 members suggesting that the inconvenience involved in adjusting repayments every time there is a rate change is not worth it.

The society points out that between October 1, 1976, and September 30, 1977, the society's financial year there were three rate changes. If the borrower had not adjusted his payments the ordinary mortgage term would by now be 10 months longer than it would have been had the rates been adjusted each time; by re-adjusting now (the year-end) the term could be kept at the same length for an extra 8p a month per £1,000 of mortgage.

Schlesinger Trust Managers launch a new specialist fund today, the Schlesinger Property Shares Trust. It will concentrate basically on property with up to 20 per cent of its portfolio in property-related shares. It is a more speculative fund perhaps than many and Schlesinger suggest that only 10 per cent of one's assets be in property shares.

It is good advice, but after Save & Prosper's decision to merge its Property and Allied Building Trades fund into its Financial Trust, the new Schlesinger fund will be welcomed by the more sophisticated investor who believes in short-term holdings in specialist funds.

MD

Unit trusts

Consumer groups take up the cause of unit-holders

Consumerism now has the unit trust industry within its sights. SECCA (South East England Consumer Association), which represents some 35 consumer groups in the South-east, has just written to the Unit Trust Association drawing attention to "certain points that we consider to operate against the interests of an investor in unit trusts".

There are three main criticisms made when there is no legal obligation either to hold an annual general meeting or to maintain a public register of investors. The second is that the investor is not normally consulted when there is a change of management or policy and "he thus has no opportunity of opposing such change if he considers it to be to his detriment".

The third criticism is a varied bag asking for more information for existing and future unit-holders. SECCA would like funds to be compared with an established index; more publicity about the amount of the dollar premium in unit trusts; greater effort to inform the public that there are other ways of buying units than by filling in coupons in newspaper advertisements; and more readily available information about pound-cost averaging.

The letter belongs to the "more-in-sorrow-than-in-anger" category and adds that it is precisely because the industry has so many "plus" points that SECCA would like to see reform and "a more open policy adopted".

"The introduction of unit trusts was surely intended to make some of the mystique out of dealing in shares; it seems to us that this laudable objective has not yet been fully realised".

The letter has been welcomed by the Unit Trust Association. Its secretary, Mr. Wilf Burnett, said that they were "good points to raise". He added: "We happily admit they were not covered, but obviously more can be done. There are things that one has to keep hammering away at."

Mr. Burnett was referring in particular to the need for more information. Pound-cost averaging is a classic example of a subject which sounds more complicated than it actually is, for which reason it is a regular standby of most commentators who write about the industry. There probably is a case for

repeated mention by the management groups in fund annual reports of this method of buying units.

The same can be said about more frequent comparison with the more representative FT all-share index than with the FT industrial ordinary share index, which embraces only 30 shares.

Another point worth considering is the fact that an index comparison is introduced in the performance tables as well as good. And, yes, I am in favour of itemizing the dollar premium content in the unit price—well, my impression is that most groups do compare a fund's performance with a share index where there is an appropriate one to use.

What is the case for the other two information points? Well, my impression is that most groups do compare a fund's performance with a share index where there is an appropriate one to use.

However, for domestic funds there is certainly a case for including more information about the more representative FT all-share index than with the FT industrial ordinary share index, which embraces only 30 shares.

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What emerges from this is that to introduce some of the SECCA changes has implications for all trusts in the country and not merely unit trusts. This may be an inhibition which the managers could circumvent by introducing some of the

changes informally—if there was a universal felt need for them and acceptance of the cost they would involve.

Annual general meetings are a costly farce for most companies and regrettably they probably would be for unit trusts, too. Unit-holders would also presumably face increased charges to absorb some of the expenses.

Public share registers are another matter. It is right that fellow members of a trust should be able to communicate with each other without going through a small intermediary. The trustees do have a register available to unit-holders of that fund. In theory, provided you can prove you are a unit-holder, all you have to do is ask to see it, although I gather you may be asked—unnecessarily in my opinion—why.

Unit-holders would want to get in touch with each other most obviously when management group, or even fund manager, is proposed. I have much sympathy with SECCA's point here. Trustees do their job adequately in these circumstances, but their concern to back the agency and direct interest of the unit-holders, who have been powerless in the past to do anything other than vote with their feet.

To be brutal, voting with one's feet is not a very good way of dealing with a public weight which is always the best. But unit-holders should have other avenues open to them. Without recourse to the unit-holder register, which is not an effective means of lobbying other unit-holders.

Also, because managers are aware that unit-holders need only be consulted out of courtesy, the unit-holder weight is small when it comes to persuading a management group to change its mind. Yet while it is true that the unit-holders have no share stake in the management group, the value of a management group depends squarely on the volume of unit-holder funds it manages.

The industry is mature enough to look into the question of whether or not unit-holders should have more rights than they enjoy at present.

Margaret Stone

Children

The range of cash or money-earned benefits offered by the state to families with children has about it an air of "Catch 22". It requires a superhuman effort to sort out whether you may claim and if so what. As a result, the present situation of many of the younger benefits that the take-up rate is abysmally low. It is estimated, for instance, that the take-up of lower income child benefit is only 10 per cent of what it could be.

Many families are missing out on the benefits either through ignorance or because of the complexity of the rules.

Child benefit: The simplest and most universal cash allowance is the child benefit which came into operation last April, and is a tax-free sum payable weekly, usually to the mother. It has been designed to replace the old system of tax relief for children and family allowances. The family allowance was payable only on the second child and subsequent children, with an extra 50p a week for the first child of a single parent family. Next financial year it will rise to £2.30 a child.

Who gets it? The child benefit was designed to be a cash payment to the mother and this concept was something of a political football in its day. It involved the gradual reduction of father's tax credits (see next week's article) and his net pay.

In the case of divorce, where most commonly the father pays maintenance and child living expenses, the mother will be awarded the benefit in event of a dispute. Unlike the old family allowance there appears to be no provision for the benefit to be split between the two parents.

If you received family allowances, you will receive it automatically. You must apply to the local Department of Health for a special allowance. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically.

Many women give up the battle to secure maintenance from their former spouses. Even if the husband refused to pay what the courts awarded you, the fact that you have taken reasonable steps to enforce payments is all that counts. You are eligible for this benefit.

The deceased former spouse must have fulfilled the necessary National Insurance contribution conditions.

The rate of the allowance is: £5.45 for the first child and £5.95 each for the others. These rates are payable weekly, £7.40 and £6.90 respectively.

November 14, 1977, in fact, a date upon which many families should take a long, hard look at their financial position. The new National Insurance and supplementary benefits rates are increased.

In most cases where income levels affect eligibility for benefits, the minima also increase. But the prescribed

self-employed, provided that you meet the low-income qualification.

But the conditions are clearly discriminatory against the bread-winning man, unless she is a single parent, since it is the man who must be in full-time work at least 26 hours a week where both man and wife work, the joint income is taken into account.

From November 14, a one-child family with gross income of less than £53.90 can qualify for the supplement. The qualifying income level rises by £4 for each subsequent child. A family with four children, for instance, would qualify with income of less than £53.90.

Investment trusts

Enter the first linked contract

The CTT Investment Trust Plan is the investment trust movement's answer to the insurance-linked contract which has done so much to help the unit trust industry.

Launched this week by London and Manchester Assurance in conjunction with brokers Lawry, Law, the CTT Investment Trust Plan, the first of its kind, is expected to put investment trusts on the same marketing footing as their unit trust rivals.

It emerged as a result of the movement's search for a product that could provide tax relief and life assurance benefits in a scheme linked to investment trust company shares.

When London and Manchester



School dinners: more families can now claim free school meals.

Following the elusive trail of state family benefits

amount for free school meals entitlement actually comes down to that date, making many more families eligible. Family Income Supplement: This is available to people with children whose gross income is below a certain level. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically. If you are awarded the supplement, you will receive it automatically.

The second in a series of articles looking at the impact of children on family finances.

circumstances, or the rates of supplement.

You can still claim rent and rate rebates or allowances, but these are not counted as income—and neither is child benefit.

Maximum supplement payments are £3.50 for families with one child and £10.50 with two.

Free school meals are one specific area where, come November 14, many families who may not have qualified before could become eligible. The new minimum net-income level is £38 for a one-child family. Note that this is net, not just net

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Investor's week

Miners make the market miserable

The spectre of another confrontation between the miners and the Government over pay and the decision to stop passing the pound at an artificially low level have given the industrial sector of the London stock market a difficult week.

With a steady 87 index drop in the week when it was down 33.1 to 496.2 and now stands 48.6 below its level of a fortnight ago. In the process it has fallen below the 495 point generally reckoned to be the bottom end of its previous trading range and many dealers are hoping for a bounce in the short run when a consolidation at these lower levels, broadly matching those of late August.

Being what was previously supposed to be a firm under-coming, the market made a bad start to the week when it sat on the sidelines, waiting for the major exporting companies of the Government's flotation of selling, rather than the benefits for inflation and the money supply.

The equity market already felt the impact of the company's profits was bleak and that the major exporters can be put to a disadvantage. News that the miners had surprisingly voted against a productivity deal — seen by many as a way of avoiding a caution over pay — reawakened fears of growing industrial unrest this winter and brought another wave of selling. Ever since the Heath Government fell in 1974 the market has seen the miners as the epitome of trade union militancy and once news of the ballot was out there was little relief from persistent, and sometimes heavy, selling.

Prices often finished the day well above their worst levels but there was little sign of any genuine investment

interest. Predictably, government stocks moved modestly upward on the starting move, but the "improvement" in money supply growth, but first the miners' decision and, subsequently, the effect this had on sterling brought a wave of selling, some of it from abroad, and by the end of the week early gains had been lost.

In a way so dominated by external economic factors like company results tended to be overlooked. Nevertheless, the giant Reed Group, dipped 37p to 141p after profits which were below expectations and a statement which highlighted the group's problems in Canada.

In spite of figures more or less on target, Pleasance, caught up in the general retreat, losing 11p to 102p, while Hoover, firm in recent weeks in the hope of a boost to consumer spending, fell to please and ended 40p lower at 360p.

Contrary to some expectations, lists for the LMI shares offered by ICI were over-subscribed, while ICI itself was the most heavily sold of the industrial leaders as pessimism grew over its third-quarter figures late last month. The shares fell 41p to 363p.

A £40m issue from Consolidated Gold Fields, a poor reception, the shares losing 22p to 182p, while another raising cash, Kwik Save Discount, dropped 42p to 239p.

Speculation in Pease Property continued, but Leonard Fairclough denied an interest, or any intention to acquire it. Pease's shares ended at 173p.

David Moff

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Year's High	Year's Low	Company	Movement	Comment
324p	183p	De Beers	20p to 290p	Diamond price rise
90p	48p	Sidlaw	9p to 88p	Bid hopes
70p	23p	Graham Wood	9p to 54p	Takeover talks
30p	5p	Wight Cons	11p to 37p	Speculative interest
97p	105p	S Miley	25p to 80p	Tin price
235p	113p	Cons Gold	22p to 182p	£40m rights
280p	80p	Kwik Save	42p to 239p	DIV disappoints
181p	86p	Distillers	25p to 164p	Major exporter
276p	140p	Reed Group	37p to 141p	Problems in Canada
445p	258p	ICI	41p to 363p	Bearish talk

Unit trust performance

Growth and specialist funds (progress this year and the past three years). Underlier index: 200.0; 1977: 130.7; 1976: 100.0. Average change offer to bid, net income included, over past 12 months: +48.3%, over 3 years: +98.5%.

Statistics supplied by Money Management and Unitholder, Greylock Place, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1ND.

ROWTH	A	B	M & C Investment	51.6
1 & G Recovery	150.2	225.3	Britannia Invest Trust	51.6
2 & G Small Cos	109.2	212.4	Chatterhouse	51.1
3 & G Wall Spec	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
4 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
5 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
6 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
7 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
8 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
9 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
10 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
11 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
12 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
13 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
14 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
15 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
16 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
17 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
18 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
19 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
20 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
21 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
22 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
23 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
24 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
25 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
26 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
27 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
28 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
29 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
30 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
31 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
32 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
33 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
34 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
35 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
36 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
37 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
38 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
39 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
40 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
41 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
42 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
43 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
44 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
45 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
46 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
47 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
48 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
49 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
50 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
51 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
52 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
53 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
54 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
55 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
56 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
57 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
58 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
59 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
60 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
61 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
62 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
63 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
64 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
65 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
66 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
67 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
68 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
69 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
70 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
71 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
72 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
73 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
74 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
75 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
76 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
77 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
78 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
79 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
80 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
81 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
82 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
83 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
84 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
85 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
86 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
87 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
88 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
89 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
90 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
91 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
92 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
93 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
94 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
95 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
96 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
97 & G International	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
98 & G Special	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
99 & G Capital	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1
100 & G Growth	109.2	212.4	Practition	48.1

Court of Appeals:

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Discount market

1244	Farwell, Geo O	253
1245	Farr, Wm	253
1246	Farr, Wm	253
1247	Farr, Wm	253
1248	Farr, Wm	253
1249	Farr, Wm	253
1250	Farr, Wm	253
1251	Farr, Wm	253
1252	Farr, Wm	253
1253	Farr, Wm	253
1254	Farr, Wm	253
1255	Farr, Wm	253
1256	Farr, Wm	253
1257	Farr, Wm	253
1258	Farr, Wm	253
1259	Farr, Wm	253
1260	Farr, Wm	253
1261	Farr, Wm	253
1262	Farr, Wm	253
1263	Farr, Wm	253
1264	Farr, Wm	253
1265	Farr, Wm	253
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1289	Farr, Wm	253
1290	Farr, Wm	253
1291	Farr, Wm	253
1292	Farr, Wm	253
1293	Farr, Wm	253
1294	Farr, Wm	253
1295	Farr, Wm	253
1296	Farr, Wm	253
1297	Farr, Wm	253
1298	Farr, Wm	253
1299	Farr, Wm	253
1300	Farr, Wm	253

Money Market Rates

[illegible]

1 month	5-5 1/2	7 months	6 1/2
2 months	5 1/2-5 3/4	8 months	6 3/4
3 months	5 3/4-5 7/8	9 months	7-8

[illegible]

Finance House Base Rate 6%

1.36	1.37	N1 Ventura	E 7.50	8.35	1.11
Charterhouse					
Palmwood Row, E.C.					
1.50	28.80	Adriapa	DM 29.80	31.50	5.99
1.50	44.80	Adriapa	DM 45.80	47.80	5.99
1.50	21.80	Adriapa	DM 22.80	24.80	5.99
1.50	21.80	Proche	DM 22.80	24.80	5.99
1.50	43.80	Hispapa	S 42.05	44.15	2.15
Van Catman & Associates					
Emax St. W.C.					
8.90	83.90	Pen Am O'pans		87.90	

indicators)

[illegible]

Company	Year	Value
American Express	1987	77
Seabrice Foods	1992	52
Seabrice Foods	1991	105
Seabram	6-1992	97
Sorden	6-1991	95
Termination	4-1988	79
Chevron	6-1988	117
Eastman Kodak	4-1988	83
Eastman Kodak	4-1988	124

[illegible]

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[illegible]

Massey v Crown Life Insurance agreement to stipulate what the legal relationship between them

Identification in court by elimination

Maintenance order devalued

McGrady v McGrady: When considering the variation of a maintenance order made years ago, the trial judge, in exercising power of the pound and penny retirement factor, the Divisional Court of the Family Division said:

"The court allowed a wife's income to be assessed at the level of £1.50 a week which had been fixed in 1948 from an order made in the wife's divorce suit in 1945 on the ground that the parties had lived separate lives since 1944."

MR JUSTICE ARNOLD: who was sitting with Mr Justice Wood, said that the parties had been married in 1942, separated in 1944 and been divorced in 1953. The wife had worked and brought up two children, but had not, without recourse to the husband, in 1970 she ceased to work because of ill health. By now she was 54 and had spent 12 years

was living on a disability pension of £16.50 a week. The husband, who was 60, was a stone mason, earned £110 a week gross.

In deciding the amount of maintenance in such circumstances, the court should have regard to the value of the wife's income in 1945 in the light of the purchasing power of the pound today when £12 was needed to buy the equivalent of £1 then and the difference between the wife's present means and what she received when she was working was £100 a week in 1970. Applying the one-third rule as a starting point and reflecting in the order the shortness of the wife's working life, the judge said his Lordship would substitute £12 a week for the £1.50.

The first case cited in *Canfield v Jenkins* (October 25) was *Bull v Bull* (1855) 10 LR 224.

The second case cited was *John Shaw & Sons Ltd v Unwin* (October 28). Gregory, Rowcliffe & Co were agents for John Taylor & Co, Man-

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Oct 31. Dealings End, Nov 11. \$ Contango Day, Nov 14. Settlement Day, Nov 22
\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

come into each one to join the more familiar lines. Prices are still almost startlingly low and you do contribute to a excellent cause by getting the current edition from Oxford University, Keddington, Oxford, OX5 1JD. The National Trust offers china in beautiful jart. English, china plates superbly adorned with old-fashioned and shrub roses against a large area of white so they look cool, unlike the busy patterns of so many room designs. Nice as gifts for £1.90. Old-fashioned bay leaves and a Victorian vase are also available. Culpeper, the herb garden, are nice little mementoes at 55p each. There are a great many National Trust shops around the country including one in London at the Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxford. Street address: National Trust, Mail Order, Western Way, Melksham, Wiltshire.

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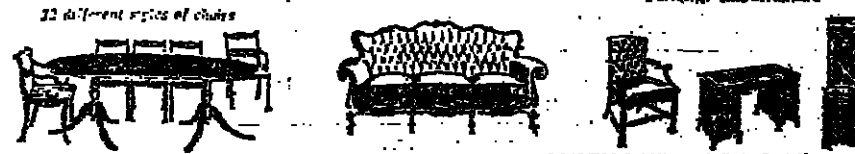
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see pages 5, 6, 7

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322-323, 324-325, 326-327, 328-329, 330-331, 332-333, 334-335, 336-337, 338-339, 340-341, 342-343, 344-345, 346-347, 348-349, 350-351, 352-353, 354-355, 356-357, 358-359, 360-361, 362-363, 364-365, 366-367, 368-369, 370-371, 372-373, 374-375, 376-377, 378-379, 380-381, 382-383, 384-385, 386-387, 388-389, 390-391, 392-393, 394-395, 396-397, 398-399, 400-401, 402-403, 404-405, 406-407, 408-409, 410-411, 412-413, 414-415, 416-417, 418-419, 420-421, 422-423, 424-425, 426-427, 428-429, 430-431, 432-433, 434-435, 436-437, 438-439, 440-441, 442-443, 444-445, 446-447, 448-449, 450-451, 452-453, 454-455, 456-457, 458-459, 460-461, 462-463, 464-465, 466-467, 468-469, 470-471, 472-473, 474-475, 476-477, 478-479, 480-481, 482-483, 484-485, 486-487, 488-489, 490-491, 492-493, 494-495, 496-497, 498-499, 500-501, 502-503, 504-505, 506-507, 508-509, 510-511, 512-513, 514-515, 516-517, 518-519, 520-521, 522-523, 524-525, 526-527, 528-529, 530-531, 532-533, 534-535, 536-537, 538-539, 540-541, 542-543, 544-545, 546-547, 548-549, 550-551, 552-553, 554-555, 556-557, 558-559, 560-561, 562-563, 564-565, 566-567, 568-569, 570-571, 572-573, 574-575, 576-577, 578-579, 580-581, 582-583, 584-585, 586-587, 588-589, 590-591, 592-593, 594-595, 596-597, 598-599, 600-601, 602-603, 604-605, 606-607, 608-609, 610-611, 612-613, 614-615, 616-617, 618-619, 620-621, 622-623, 624-625, 626-627, 628-629, 630-631, 632-633, 634-635, 636-637, 638-639, 640-641, 642-643, 644-645, 646-647, 648-649, 650-651, 652-653, 654-655, 656-657, 658-659, 660-661, 662-663, 664-665, 666-667, 668-669, 670-671, 672-673, 674-675, 676-677, 678-679, 680-681, 682-683, 684-685, 686-687, 688-689, 690-691, 692-693, 694-695, 696-697, 698-699, 700-701, 702-703, 704-705, 706-707, 708-709, 710-711, 712-713, 714-715, 716-717, 718-719, 720-721, 722-723, 724-725, 726-727, 728-729, 730-731, 732-733, 734-735, 736-737, 738-739, 740-741, 742-743, 744-745, 746-747, 748-749, 750-751, 752-753, 754-755, 756-757, 758-759, 760-761, 762-763, 764-765, 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